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"Older than the New York Times"

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30 hour fast reveals plight of impoverished, kicks off Hunger and Homelessness Week

by Kristy Hague '05
NEWS WRITER

HAVOC kicked off its annual Hunger and Homelessness Week on Sunday with its 30 Hour Fast for the World Harvest." The Fast for World Harvest is a nationwide event that most colleges hold around Thanksgiving in order to increase student awareness of hunger and appreciation of their privilege.

Sponsored by Oxfam, a nongovernmental organization, the Fast for World Harvest is designed to both promote education about economic hardship and to raise funds for people in poverty. Students had people sponsor them for the fast; the money raised was donated to Hope House, a soup kitchen in Utica.

Bon Appetit, Hamiton's food provider, chose not to donate the funds from the five meals that the fasting students missed. Instead, Bon Appetit will donate $2.50 to the Hope House for every person that attends the Hunger Banquet on Friday evening at 6 p.m.

A total of ten people participated in the fast. Although the number of participants was disappointing to HAVOC officers, the officers were confident that more students would be involved in other aspects of Hunger and Homelessness Week.

Students participating in the fast restricted themselves to fluids from 11 a.m. on Sunday until 5 p.m. on Monday, and finally celebrated their feat with a huge Grandes banquet on the third floor of the chapel. The fasting students arrived at the chapel at 4:30 p.m. to reflect upon their experience and enjoy the meal,

see Fast, page 4

Faculty to discuss issue of residential fraternities

by Erin Weaver '05
NEWS WRITER
Ian Mandel '06
NEWS EDITOR

Recently expressed concerns about the current state of Hamilton Greek life has resulted in the scheduling of a discussion on the topic at the next faculty meeting, to be held December 9th. The extensive amount of vandalism committed in the residence halls this semester, coupled with the increasing awareness of a problem with alcohol at the College, has spurred many faculty members into action.

According to Dean of the Faculty David Paris, several faculty members have brought their concerns directly to him and the Academic Council, a faculty body composed of professors Carole Bellini-Sharp, Alfred Kelly, Marianne Janack, John O'Neill and Patrick Reynolds, and chaired by Paris. The Council has decided that the issue warrants discussion before the faculty as a whole.

Concern has been expressed by high ranking administration officials, including President Joan Hinde Stewart. At the November 11th Faculty Meeting, Stewart directly addressed the issue of student alcohol abuse and its negative consequences, such as sexual assault and vandalism.

"We have some serious problems," Stewart said, adding that a "campus-wide discussion" concerning these issues would occur. "We will speak again on these topics as the year goes by."

Stewart cited the need for the Hamilton community to "look at existing alcohol abuse and act accordingly," through the potential implementation of a new residential and social system that "more systematically encourages and rewards good behavior."

To further substantiate her argument, Stewart read an excerpt from an essay by Reynolds Price denouncing the "work hard, play hard" adage that defines the lives of so many college students. Stewart concluded her remarks by stating that Hamilton's "student culture should not be defined by some stupid work hard, play hard adage...learning communities are the essence of a liberal arts college."

There is a solid consensus at the College that the extensive damage done in residence halls is usually inflicted by intoxicated students. Many argue that students affiliated with Hamilton's fourteen private, Greek societies are responsible for the damage.

Director of Residential Life Jeff Landry stated that he was not necessarily sure that a connection existed. He explained that in Milbank Hall, for instance, the dormitory with the largest amount of damage this semester, the majority of the vandalism has been committed in the stairwells and to external doors. Landry stated that vandalism to common areas is hard to link to any society.

According to Landry, three big windows have been broken in Milbank, all from the outside of the building, in addition to three or four external doors.

Professor of History Maurice Isserman has been a vocal critic of societies' efforts to circumvent the 1995 Residential Life Decision,

see Faculty, page 4

Roman illuminates stigma, segregation and inaccessibility assigned to those with disabilities

by Emma Furman '07
NEWS WRITER

Professor Leslie Roman of the University of British Columbia gave a lecture entitled "Now You See 'Us'; Now You Don't: Discourses of Disability and Social Justice in and Around Education" in the Fillius Events Barn on Monday, November 17. The event was symbolically held in the Barn, one of the few buildings on the Hamilton College campus that is accessible to those with disabilities. The lecture began at 7:30 p.m. and lasted about two hours, including a DVD presentation and an interactive question and answer period with the audience.

The lecture was sponsored by a vast variety of departments, organizations and groups on campus, including the departments of Africana Studies, Education Studies, Government, Spanish and Women's Studies , as well as the Dean of Faculty, the Dean of Students, the Disability Action Group, the Faculty for Women's Concerns, HAVOC, the Hewlett Pluralism and Unity Grant, the Kirkland Endowment, and the Womyn's Center. Roman pointed out that this eclectic array of sponsors proved just how many parts of Hamilton's community are affected by the topic of disabilities.

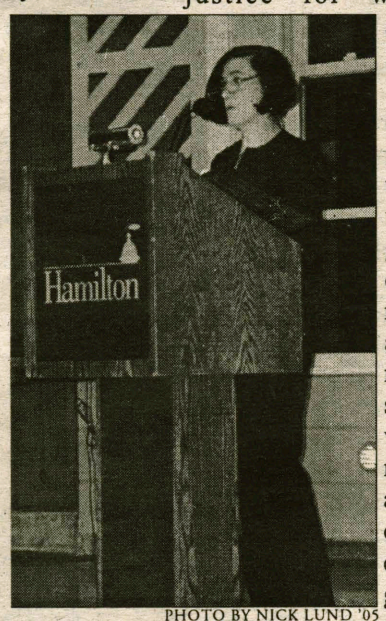

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Professor Leslie Roman presented a lecture on disabilities in the Events Barn.

Roman has an impressive resumé that includes an abundance of work and research on issues such as justice for women and antiracism. She has published several books on issues pertaining to feminism, gender equality and racial justice, and she has recently started to write on and research disabilities, focusing especially on eugenics today and in the past.

Roman began her lecture by stressing the

see Disabilities, page 4

Foreman lectures on environmental justice

by Daniel A. Bleeker '06
ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR

Christopher H. Foreman Jr., head of the Social Policy Program at the University of Maryland and the latest speaker in this year's Levitt Center series on the Environment: Public Policy and Social Responsibility, did not always consider himself an expert in his field.

"For the majority of my life, I considered environmental activism nothing more than hiking, biking and spotted owls," Foreman began in his talk this past Thursday, November 20th in the KJ Red Pit. It wasn't until the former American University professor and prolific author became a senior fellow in governmental studies at Washington DC's prestigious Brookings Institute that the emerging field of environmental justice caught his eye.

"In December of 1993 I was at the Brookings Institute, finishing a book, and I happened to open the *New York Times* to find an article about an executive order passed by then President Bill Clinton relating to environmental justice, which I had never heard of... After doing some reading, however, I was intrigued by the fusion of civil rights and social action on the one hand, and environmental advocacy on the other," Foreman said.

Defined by Foreman as the process of involvement, inclusion and fairness in environmental decision making, environmental justice seeks to reconcile societies' need for environmental determents, such as landfills, toxic waste dumps and chemical factories, with individuals rights to a clean, healthy living environment. All too often, Foreman lamented, its is those with the least resources to begin with, such as the poor and educationally disadvantaged, that are forced to saddle most of America's environmental burden.

As Foreman became more involved in the burgeoning environmental justice movement and started to attend meetings of the National Environmental Advi-

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The Right Stuff...

Forum presents one side of society house debate

by Ian Mandel '06
NEWS EDITOR

A forum was held to address the merits of society houses at Hamilton on Wednesday, November 19, in the chapel. William Weydemeyer '04 hosted the forum as an assignment for his Argumentation and Advocacy Class, taught by Lecturer in Rhetoric and Communications Lisa Heller.

The forum featured three student speakers, Dan Worth, President of Theta Delta Chi, Jason Kurtzman, President of Delta Upsilon, and Weydemeyer. Although their were differences of opinion on specific matters, all three speakers expressed their belief that Hamilton should have society houses.

The forum was attended by seventeen students, in addition to two administrators, Dean of Students Flossie Mitchell and Director of Counseling and Psychological Services Bob Kazin.

Weydemeyer began the forum by explaining the history of the 1995 Residential Life Decision that banned private societies at Hamilton from living and eating in society houses. He subsequently summarized the efforts of certain societies to have the decision reversed, citing a lawsuit brought against the College by four fraternities. According to Weydemeyer, the suit accused the College of unlawful monopolization of housing, asserting that the College's motivation was commercial, namely, to increase revenues by having more students pay for room and board.

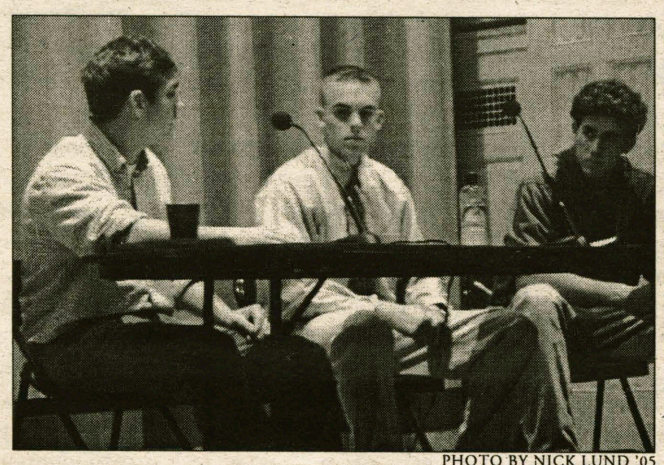


PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Dan Worth, William Weydemeyer and Jason Kurtzman participated in Wednesday's forum.

Weydemeyer explained that the purpose of the forum was to obtain a general consensus of the Hamilton community. He explained that, originally, four members of the Hamilton faculty were scheduled to take part as speakers in the forum, but cancelled earlier on Wednesday. In a post-forum e-mail, Weydemeyer identified two of those faculty members as Dean of the Faculty David Paris and Director of Residential Life Jeff Landry. Although Paris and Landry cancelled at the last minute, Weydemeyer was grateful for their help.

"Both were very helpful resources to me the day of the forum however. It was with their help that I could continue with the forum that night," Weydemeyer wrote in the e-mail.

Despite his appreciation, Weydemeyer stated that he believed a higher power

*see **Forum**, page 7*

De Luca explains value of Classical Studies

by Katie Jones '07
NEWS WRITER

Dr. Luigi De Luca spoke to students, faculty and visitors from the community about the benefits of his classics education in his life and his scientific career on Wednesday, November 19th.

De Luca was raised in the small southern Italian town of Maglie, where he started his classical studies in sixth grade and continued them through his graduation. Along with other subjects, Italian classical studies include eight years of Latin instruction and five years of Greek instruction. Classical studies are very rigorous and are considered highly prestigious pursuit in Ital.

De Luca received his doctorate degree from the Institute of Biological Chemistry at the University of Pavia and went on to become part of the National Cancer Center. He is now Head of the Differentiation Control Section of the Laboratory of Cellular Carcinogenesis and Tumor promotion at the National Cancer Institute.

Dr. De Luca credits his ability to argue effectively and consider answers to questions logically to his classical studies and to Latin. His varied background has also helped in his career as a biological chemist and a cancer researcher.

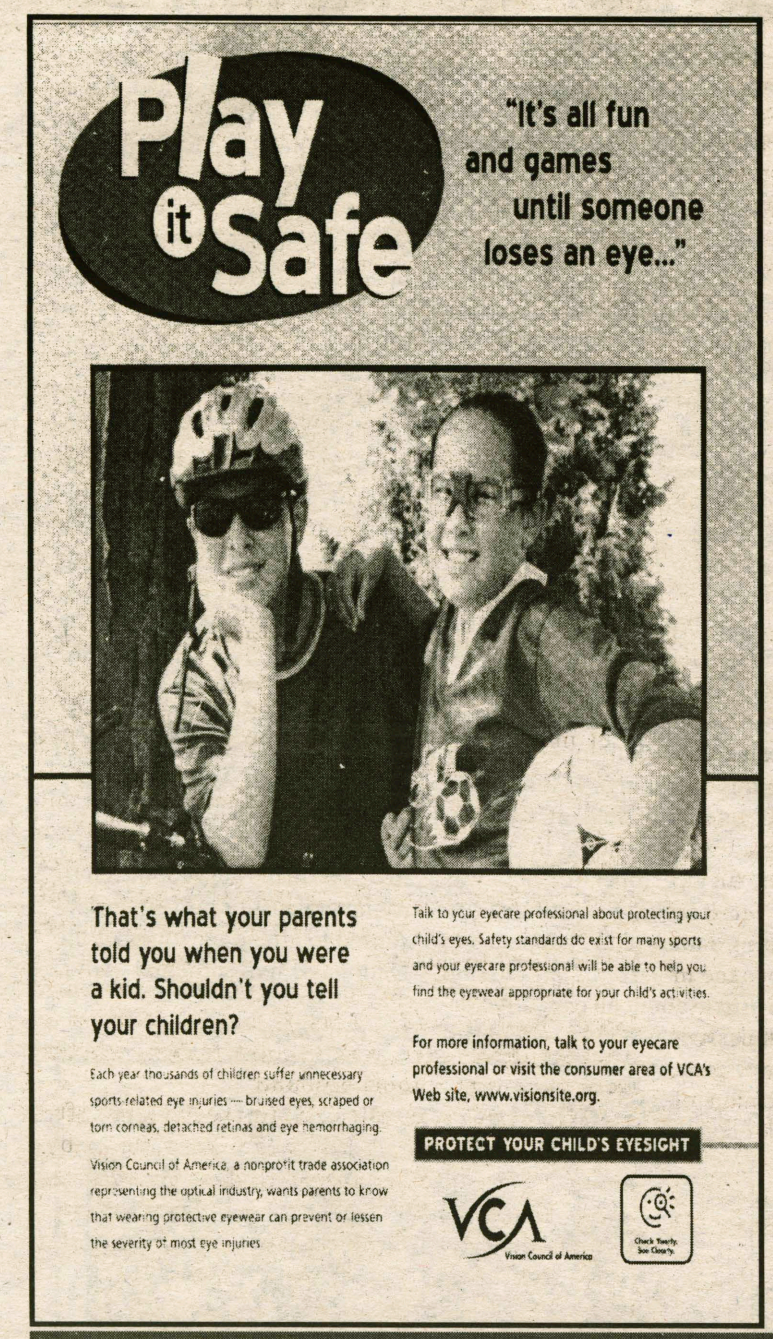
In his work as a scientist, Dr. De Luca has done considerable research on cancer and has authored or co-authored 200 articles about his findings. He gave the audience background on some of the work that he completed, which includes the invention of an inhaled medicine that can help prevent and treat cancer.

Dr. De Luca's research used the effects of vitamin A deficiency to discover an acid that can reverse the effects of cancer causing agents. Once the acid was discovered, the scientists needed to figure out a way to get the drugs to the site of cancer. Orally delivered drugs are of little benefit to patients because the ingested medicine must pass through the system before it reaches sites, such as the lungs. Dr. De Luca and a team of scientists invented a system in which the curative agent is inhaled so that it can have a strong direct effect on the tissue where it can prevent tumor formation. Clinical tests on the drug could start in five to ten years.

"Our research[s] hold tremendous potential for finding a cure for cancer, said Dr. De Luca. "It has also benefited me a great deal because it has given me important connections with people all over the world."

After years of cancer research, however, Dr. De Luca decided to

*see **Classical**, page 6*


Play it Safe
"It's all fun and games until someone loses an eye..."
That's what your parents told you when you were a kid. Shouldn't you tell your children?
Each year thousands of children suffer unnecessary sports-related eye injuries — bruised eyes, scraped or torn corneas, detached retinas and eye hemorrhaging.
Vision Council of America, a nonprofit trade association representing the optical industry, wants parents to know that wearing protective eyewear can prevent or lessen the severity of most eye injuries.
Talk to your eyecare professional about protecting your child's eyes. Safety standards do exist for many sports and your eyecare professional will be able to help you find the eyewear appropriate for your child's activities.
For more information, talk to your eyecare professional or visit the consumer area of VCA's Web site, www.visionsite.org.
PROTECT YOUR CHILD'S EYESIGHT
VCA
Vision Council of America
Check Twenty. See Clearly.

Memorials commemorating Vietnam War evoke varying emotions

by Guillermo Artiles '07
NEWS WRITER

Guided by professor of history Maurice Isserman, Catherine Klein '04 delivered an Emerson Grant presentation comparing American and Vietnamese memorials to the Vietnam War. The presentation, held on November 17 in the Red Pit, was based on Klein's experiences in the country of Vietnam, as well as her analysis of memorials within the United States.

Entitled "The Fatherland Remembers Your Sacrifice," the presentation led the audience on a virtual tour of sites relevant to the Vietnam War, including the famous, Maya Ying Lin designed, Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., and eventually moving on to the place where it all happened, the Koochi Tunnels of Vietnam.

The slideshow began with photographs of families, friends and veterans surrounding the Wall. Images of veterans running memorabilia stands in front of the wall permeated the slideshow, highlighting the mixed opinions of veterans towards the Wall.

"It's a black gash of shame," exclaimed one veteran who found the wall to be unnecessary, serving as a haunting reminder rather than an emotional tribute.

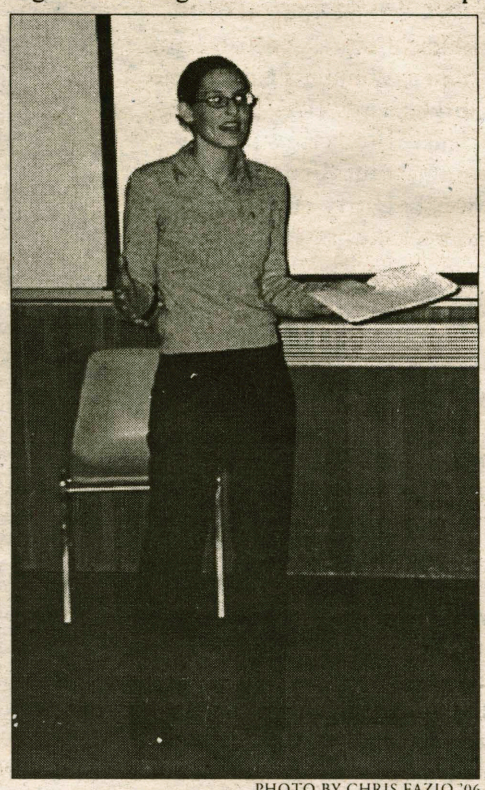


PHOTO BY CHRIS FAZIO '06

Catherine Klein '04 presented her findings about memorials in Vietnam and in the United States.

Another veteran featured in the presentation held a contrasting view, commenting that the Wall is "absolutely perfect, just perfect!"

Opinions about the memorial seem as diverse as the veterans whose lives they celebrate. Veteran John Rockefeller, who suffers from post-traumatic stress syndrome and owns a memorabilia stand that sells pins, stickers and buttons commemorating the war, believes "he owes something to those people who sacrificed it all for this country."

The presentation's title, "The Fatherland Remembers Your Sacrifice," was derived from a quote engraved in a statue located in the center of a Vietnamese cemetery. Klein later noted that most Vietnamese people rarely visit cemeteries, and overall, the Vietnamese people do not cordially accept the soldiers who participated

*see **Vietnam**, page 4*

IVORY TOWERS

THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Female-Student Kiss Spurs Debate at School

CLARKSVILLE, Maryland (AP) — Inspired by a high school assignment, Stephanie Haaser leaped onto a cafeteria table, shouted "End homophobia now!" and kissed classmate Katherine Pecore.

Haaser said she was making a statement on behalf of gay and lesbian students because she was bothered by the verbal and physical harassment they face.

Their principal said he respected what the heterosexual students were trying to do, but they needed to learn more appropriate ways to make a point. Haaser and Pecore were suspended for two days.

"It's highly inappropriate to stand on a table in the cafeteria and make out, whether the kiss was heterosexual or homosexual," said River Hill High School principal Scott Pfeifer. "I don't think there's a school in the country where parents would consider that appropriate behavior."

Haaser, a junior, said she chose to make the statement as part of an English class assignment, which required that she engage in a nonconformist act in the tradition of Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson.

"You hear derogatory comments in virtually every class," Haaser said. "It's not always spiteful — someone might say, 'Oh that's so gay,' where 'gay' means stupid or dumb. But those comments can be really hurtful."

Haaser said teachers who hear such remarks rarely intervene.

River Hill administrators said they pride themselves on the school's respect for diversity. Pfeifer said the school has a Gay-Straight Alliance club and a diversity committee of students, teachers and parents. The school recently celebrated National Coming Out Day.

"I wouldn't put up River Hill as a national model," Pfeifer said, "but I would say we are as sensitive about these issues as anyone."

The incident has sparked debate about tolerance at the school.

A few days after the kiss, juniors Mia Freyer and Anna Boyland staged a brief protest outside the school on behalf of the suspended students. They carried signs that read "Down with Homophobia" and "Don't: Hate and discriminate."

Teacher Suspended for Milk Experiment

SMITHFIELD, North Carolina (AP) — A high school teacher was suspended for a classroom experiment that caused several students to vomit after drinking large amounts of milk.

Jeff Ferguson, a chemistry and physics teacher at Smithfield-Selma High School, organized the experiment last week to test the body's ability to neutralize acids in milk.

It was intended to show the body can handle only so much before a natural reaction occurs and the person vomits. Out of 42 students in two classes, 13 did just that. None required medical attention, and five students chose not to participate.

Parents alerted school administrators about the November 12 incident. Ferguson was sent home the next day and was suspended with pay Tuesday, pending an investigation by a law firm hired by the school district.

Superintendent Jim Causby said the district would decide on further action after the investigation, which could take "days to weeks."

On Wednesday, Ferguson failed to persuade a judge to let him return to the classroom. He wanted a temporary restraining order so that he could return to help his students prepare for end-of-semester exams, but Superior Court Judge Knox Jenkins denied his request.

"It's been rather unpleasant sitting at home and knowing nobody is teaching my class as effectively as I can," Ferguson said after the hearing. "There's not a lot positive about this situation."

The teacher's attorney, Lamar Armstrong, said students were not required to participate in the expseriment, and students had receptacles in case they became ill.

WORLD NEWS

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Twin Truck Bombings in Turkey Kill 27

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) — Suspected al-Qaida suicide bombers blew up trucks packed with explosives at the British consulate and a London-based bank Thursday, killing at least 27 people and wounding nearly 450. The twin attacks coincided with President Bush's state visit to Britain.

The blasts, just minutes apart, were the worst terrorist bombings in this Muslim nation's history, and marked the second attacks in Turkey to be blamed on al-Qaida this week. On Saturday, bombers struck two Istanbul synagogues, killing 23 people.

Turkey's security forces were put on highest alert, and the army briefly deployed soldiers in the streets. Arab and other world leaders were swift to condemn the bombings in Turkey, NATO's only Muslim member and a close ally of the United States and Israel.

Among Thursday's dead were Consul-General Roger Short, Britain's top diplomat in Istanbul, and British diplomatic staff member Lisa Hallworth. Istanbul Gov. Muammer Guler said two other of the 16 people killed at the consulate were British, and that the death toll was likely to rise.

"Once again we are reminded of the evil these terrorists pose to people everywhere and to our way of life," Prime Minister Tony Blair said in London, with President Bush by his side. "There must be no holding back, no compromise, no hesitation in confronting this menace."

Bush said the bombing showed "utter contempt for innocent life."

"The terrorists hope to intimidate, they hope to demoralize. They are not going to succeed," the president said.

Thousands in Britain Protest Bush Visit

LONDON (AP) — Tens of thousands of demonstrators marched through the heart of London on Thursday, toppling a 17-foot tall papier mache statue of President Bush and burning his life-size effigy to show their anger for the Iraq war and Prime Minister Tony Blair's support of the invasion.

As Bush and Blair vowed "not to flinch or give way or concede one inch" to terrorism in the wake of deadly bombings against British targets in Turkey, protesters said the close relationship between the two leaders made them deeply uneasy.

"We're angry that Bush appears to be leading our country," said marcher Ted Edwards. "Why Blair is allying himself to Bush I do not know."

Many in the crowd said Thursday's bombings in Istanbul, which killed more than two dozen people, strengthened their resolve to oppose U.S.-British policy in Iraq.

Five Dead in Blast in N. Iraqi City

KIRKUK, Iraq (AP) — A truck bomb exploded near a Kurdish party office in this northern oil city Thursday, killing five people and wounding 30 in an attack local officials blamed on Islamic extremists linked to al-Qaida. It was the second bombing this week against Iraqis who cooperate with the U.S. occupation.

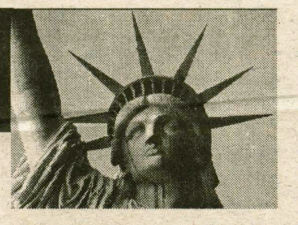
In Baghdad, an American general said the 12-day "Operation Iron Hammer" offensive against insurgents in the capital had reduced guerrilla attacks in the city by 70 percent.

Brig. Gen. Martin Dempsey, commander of the 1st Armored Division, said the campaign will now focus on using intelligence to disrupt rebel strikes. "What I want the enemy to know is that there is no sanctuary in Baghdad," he told reporters.

The powerful 10:30 a.m. explosion in Kirkuk shattered windows and damaged doors at the two-story, yellow-and-green building of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. It also blew out windows of a nearby radio-television station.

At about the same time, twin suicide truck bombs in Istanbul, Turkey exploded at a London-based bank and the British consulate - attacks that coincided with President Bush's visit to London to meet Prime Minister Tony Blair, his closest European ally on Iraq.

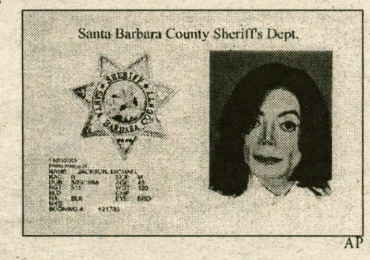
NATIONAL NEWS



Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Jackson Booked in Child Molestation Case

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — Trailed by a phalanx of TV cameras, a handcuffed Michael Jackson was booked on suspicion of child molestation Thursday after arriving by private jet to face charges that could finish off his already declining career and send him to prison for years.



AP

The self-styled "King of Pop" immediately posted $3 million bail. He waved to reporters and flashed a V-sign before leaving the Santa Barbara County jail in a black Suburban escorted by three sheriff's motorcycle officers.

"He's come back specifically to confront these charges head-on," defense attorney Mark Geragos said. "He is greatly outraged by the bringing of these charges. He considers this to be a big lie."

"Lies run sprints, but the truth runs marathons," Jackson added in a statement issued by a spokesman. "The truth will win this marathon in court."

With Jackson's riches and global fame, the advent of 24-hour cable news channels, and the rise of TV cameras in the courtroom, the allegations set the stage for what would be one of the most sensational celebrity court cases the world has ever seen.

Authorities released no details of the case beyond a warrant accusing the 45-year-old Jackson of multiple counts of lewd or lascivious acts with a child under 14, an offense punishable by three to eight years in prison.

But news reports have said the child was a 12- or 13-year-old boy who visited Jackson at his Neverland Ranch, a storybook playland where the singer was known to hold sleepovers for children and share his bed with youngsters.

Jackson returned to California from Las Vegas, where he was making a video, a day after authorities announced a warrant for his arrest had been issued.

Jurors See Softer Side of Muhammad

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) — Jurors deciding the fate of sniper John Allen Muhammad saw a softer side of the convicted murderer Thursday, watching a home movie in which he plays with his children and encourages them to take their first steps. But prosecutors said "that person no longer exists."

The jury was to begin deliberating Friday on whether Muhammad should live or die for masterminding the Washington-area sniper spree last year.

Muhammad was convicted Monday of two murder counts related to the wave of killings that left 10 people dead and three wounded.

The 42-year-old Army veteran appeared glum as he watched the five-minute video Thursday, alternately wearing a frown and hanging his head.

"You can walk. Now go ahead and walk to daddy," he says on the tape as one of his daughters takes her first steps.

In another clip, Muhammad says to the girl, "Let me see the teeth" and the girl flashes two baby teeth and a big smile.

But prosecutors said during closing arguments in the trial's penalty phase that evidence about Muhammad once being a good family man is irrelevant stacked against the terror of last year's killing spree. They urged the jury to sentence Muhammad to death.

"That person no longer exists," prosecutor James Willett said. "This is not a question of whether there once was a good father, whether there once was a good husband."

The tape was played immediately after Muhammad's sister, Aurolyn Williams, described the difficult circumstances of their early childhood. Their mother died of breast cancer when Muhammad was 3 and was in constant grief because they could not afford pain medication for her.

HAVOC fights hunger

from 30 Hour Fast, page 1

something most students take for granted.

Haley Reimbold '06, one of the leaders of HAVOC, noted that "while I could never really appreciate desperate hunger, fasting for thirty hours brought me to a little better understanding."

Even after only thirty hours without food, participants felt the effects of hunger and noted that they felt light headedness and that everything seemed fuzzy and delayed.

Several participants mentioned that they made sure to eat a big meal before their fast andmade sure not to work out or exert too much energy during the period.

"I started to see all the food not being used, which was the point....removing the food from your life puts things into perspective," commented Nate Stell '04, one of the student participants.

Fasters noted that it was especially hard to walk by the dining halls or Cafe Opus toward the end of the thirty hour period. Several participants emphasized that they drank a lot of water and chewed a lot of gum to distract themselves from the hunger.

The message of the fast really hit home during a Brown Bag Lunch on Tuesday. Norma Sangupta, the developer of a Soup at School program for South African children, spoke about her experience with school children in Africa. She noted that students had to walk five to ten miles to school every morning, go to class, and walk back, not eating any food until they returned home.

"It made my lifestyle seem really superfluous when I can run into the dining halls at any hour of the day and fill myself," noted one student.

Most students agreed that the fast was the proper way to start off Hunger and Homelessness week because it let people fully empathize with the plight of people in poverty.

Klein analyzes monuments

from Vietnam, page 2

the war. She recalls a Vietnamese tour guide explaining that the "people who lost the war are still living there and living as criminals." When asked about feelings toward the Americans, the tour guide responded, "We forgive, we just don't forget." Officially, there is no Vietnamese memorial commemorating the war effort.

On the home front, Klein claims that the "overall consensus is the 'Wall is good.'"

Over the years, the average Americans' perceptions of the war have evolved in a positive direction. She believes that there has been a "clear change in how America looks at this war."

Klein concluded her presentation with the idea that America has finally "separated the war from the warrior." Progressively, the Vietnam War has "come to find a place in American identity."

Isserman attributes all the credit for the project to Klein, whom he believes did a "terrific job" on her public presentation, which she decided to present to the Hamilton community after writing an extensive paper on her findings.

Isserman hopes to see both students and faculty members applying for Emerson Grants, which he describes to be a "very good program." The grants allow both faculty and students to apply for financial support for nfunding projects.

In wake of damage, lottery system to be reexamined

from Faculty, page 1

which effectively banned students from living in private society houses. Isserman has actively reiterated his position in The Spectator and The Clinton Courier, and elaborated via e-mail.

"There are a great many members of the faculty who are concerned that the 1995 Residential Life decision to abolish residential fraternities at Hamilton College has been undermined by the strategies employed by some private societies to abuse the housing lottery system, and by the policies of the Dean of Students and the Office of Residential Life that have allowed them to do so. There are similar concerns shared by many members of the faculty about the creation of de facto residential fraternities and sororities in the village of Clinton in recent years...It is long past time that the 1995 Residential Life decision be fully and genuinely implemented and enforced by the College. The Academic Council, chaired by Dean of the Faculty David Paris, has been discussing this issue all fall."

The position held by Isserman, and shared by a number of his colleagues in the faculty, interprets the current state of Greek life at Hamilton to be a version of a residential fraternity system.

"Living on Marvin Street, and having an office in Milbank, I know a residential fraternity when I see one," Isserman stated in his e-mail.

According to Landry, there is one fraternity that controls four suites in Milbank, three of which are in a row.

To many at Hamilton, having over twenty members of a single society, many living in consecutive rooms, in a single dormitory constitute what Isserman calls a "residential fraternity."

Director of Student Activities Lisa Magnarelli defended private societies and the status of the ResLife decision: "Our current housing situation falls in line with the 1995 decision, as all student have the same opportunities for housing. No group is given priority or preference over others, which was the point of the ResLife decision."

Landry agreed, stating that all students have equal access to all rooms on campus, a situation that he believes does not violate the 1995 decision. He did note that the College and the Office of Residential Life are in the process of evaluating the lottery system to find out if it is "fair and equitable for everyone."

Landry stated that changes could possibly be implemented in room pulling works. One suggestion requires a group of students being pulled in by a friend to average all of their lottery numbers together in order to determine at which point they would be able to choose a room. According to Landry, this would avoid situations where seniors pull in a group of sophomores, leaving other seniors with less desirable housing.

Landry also asserted that the appropriateness of "blocks" will be considered. Students can currently pull a block of rooms in dormitories such as Bundy.

Yet Landry was wary of denying students housing options because of an affiliation with a certain group.

"I don't think that I can single out any particular group and say, 'you can't live together based on the group that you're in,'" Landry said.

He added that an examination of who's living in blocks reveals that it is not only private societies. Landry noted that athletic teams and even Hamilton's a cappella group The Buffers have reserved blocks of rooms.

While Landry and Residential Life continue to examine whether the currently housing system appropriately complies with the 1995 Decision and whether all students have equal access to housing, the debate among the faculty rages on.

Some professors have expressed concerns that the current issue will develop into a perceived conflict between the students and the faculty. They insist that the issues being raised are pertinent to the future of the institution and to the College's ability to flourish as an academic center.

At the December 9th meeting, the Academic Council will bring the concerns of the faculty, both about the state of Greek life and it's implications for the future of Hamilton, to the entire faculty for discussion. Faculty meetings are open to the public.

Paris was confident that the meeting would merely be a forum for discussion and that no actions would be taken nor would any decisions be made. He reinforced the idea that the faculty is not out to prevent friends from living together, but is rather interested in examining whether the current position of Greek societies in College dormitories violates the 1995 Decision. He continued, stating that a way must be found to allow friends to live together without having residential fraternities.

Roman discusses disability descriminaton

from Roman, page 1

importance of disability rights activists and groups that are continuously struggling to attain rights and equality for those with disabilities. She listed a plethora of people who deserve credit for their actions, including several here at Hamilton College, such as professors Chandra Mohanty and Esther Kanipe.

Roman then discussed how she came to be introduced todisability politics and how she began to understand how current and past practices and ways of thinking segregate and stigmatize those with disabilities. Her experience with this segregation began when she started to volunteer at the British Columbia Paraplegic Center, which eventually led to her collaboration with the director of the center. This work culminated in a conference at the University of Hawaii, where Roman would be formally introduced to disability politics, and also meet her future husband, a polio survivor and wheelchair user.

Her personal experience led to further research on the stigma and segregation disturbingly attached to disability, and she found these patterns present throughout human history. In her lecture, Roman illustrated this troubling history through a series of "memory flashes" in disability history. These included events such as Australia's rejection of refugees with disabilities for a variety of unsettling reasons, including "to protect access of "normal" Australians to medical care," as well as the multitude of atrocities committed against people with disabilities by the Nazis during World War II. During this time, the practice of eugenics was brought chillingly to life through the Nazis testing of their mass extermination machines on people with disabilities at the beginning of the war, and then through the Nazis murdering them systematically and en masse during and at the close of the war. Roman reminded the audience that the disabled are the least memorialized group of the Holocaust.

Roman's discussion of the history of eugenics and segregation of people with disabilities led to her commentary on how the same practices continue today. The practices of labeling, segregating, and even sterilizing, people with disabilities are still incredibly common. She then went on to demonstrate the reality of these practices by showing a DVD presentation. The DVD, created by Sharon Shynder and David Mitchell, focused on the history of eugenics at the Bernburg killing center, as well as the impact of eugenics on disability today.

Roman concluded her lecture by discussing social justice and disability on Hamilton's campus. Overall, the review of Hamilton's campus for disability access was not favorable; she viewed Hamilton's campus as "probably one of the most unfriendly campuses to disabilities," and found that only 2% of our buildings are accessible to students and faculty with disabilities.

This, she said, "sends the message that students and faculty with disabilities are not welcome," not a message that Hamilton hopes to put out into the world. However, Professor Roman also applauded Hamilton for inviting her, and for partaking in the disability audit, which she also added was only the first step we're taking here to lose the stigma, segregation, and inaccessibility attached to disability.

Editorial

The Spectator

The Spectator
"Older than the New York Times"

Tonight the Hamilton College men's hockey team will open its season in a game traditionally known as the Citrus Bowl. Due to some unfortunate events in recent years, the game has been renamed the Orange Bowl, and the school is attempting to do away with the tradition of students throwing oranges on the ice following Hamilton's first goal of the year.

The truly meaningful tradition of the game is that students turn out in full force to make the game as difficult on the other team as possible by making as much noise as possible. In the days before the renovation to Sage Rink, the students would sit in a balcony that hung over the ice. The fans were just as crazy then, in fact more so, than the fans now, and they intimidated without throwing oranges every game. They were known as the "Creatures" and often attended games in costumes and masks. They would come to every game, stay for the duration, and as their reputation grew, the term "Rage in the Sage" came into being.

We have many great traditions at Hamilton, and the first hockey game of the year is one of them. Students love to get involved in the games by throwing oranges, often trying to hit opposing goalies as they duck for cover in the nets. But there are many ways to get involved in the games without throwing things on the ice. The best way to show your support for Hamilton hockey is to show up to the game tonight and be loud and creative with chants, costumes, and enthusiasm. We all want to be part of the tradition and part of the stories about oranges on the ice, but this year we have the unique opportunity to start a new tradition, and that is a much better story to tell years down the road. We can put the Rage back into the Sage with class, and do so without the need of projectiles. Student Assembly has done a great job coming up with some creative ways to support the team. Go early, wear your orange and bring your cowbells. Let's show Student Assembly and the team that we can be as creative as they are, and make this event our own, even without the fruit.

So go to the game tonight, enjoy yourself, and be loud. But try to remember that the hockey program, athletic department, and Student Assembly have worked hard to protect the other teams. The goal of the event is not to injure or even intimidate opposing teams. The event is carried out simply because it is tradition, and tonight we should start a new one. Let's get the bleacher creature going again and make our team proud of their fans. Let's make Sage a dominating home rink that other teams don't want to play. Not just in the first game, for fear of oranges, but in every game, because of the enthusiasm of the home crowd. Go Conts!

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Stuednt Assembly President/Vice President Platform

Elizabeth Dolan '05 and Jeff Long '05

We submit this platform with great enthusiasm. As active members of the student body we are thrilled to represent you as President and Vice President of the Student Assembly for the coming year.

As demonstrated by our endeavors in many campus organizations we offer a strong commitment to the college, a desire to lead, and dedication to evoke positive change within our community.

Elizabeth is currently serving her second term as the class of 2005 president, and her third term on the Student Assembly bringing unparalleled experience to the Presidential position. Jeff brings a wide range of experiences to the Vice-Presidential position including tenures with the Inter-Society-Council, HAVOC, and Adirondack Adventure – assuring the student body a broad range of perspective.

We stand for positive change for our communities both on and off the Hill. We will work to promote and galvanize the interests of the students, and are determined to revolutionize the role of Student Assembly President and Vice President.

With our commitment to this campus, our leadership, and our dedication to evoke positive change, we bring forth a genuine desire to represent the student voice. We ask for your support in the coming term, and are open to your suggestions and concerns. We look forward to an exciting and productive year.

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Le Duca celebrates the Classics, Latin

from ***De Luca****, page 2*

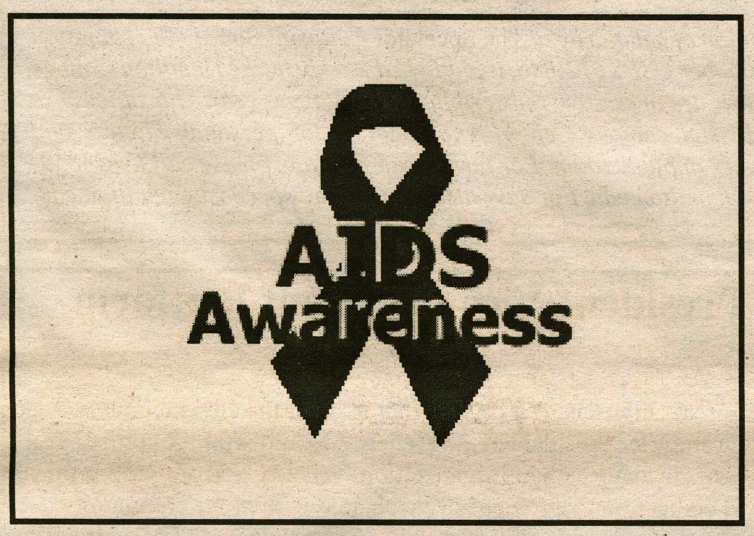
return to classical studies and obtained his MA in classics from the University of Maryland.

"Something deep inside of me, a voice of my ancestry called for me to return to Latin," said Dr. De Luca. "Ovid is what came to my rescue. He reconciled what I used to be with what I am now. It allows you to enter a very romantic realm."

Dr. De Luca's lecture gave the audience an idea of how important a multi-faceted, broadly based education is for success. His talk was therefore applicable to not only classics and language majors, but anyone interested in pursuing a widely ranging liberal arts curriculum.

He gave several reasons for his return to classical studies after his scientific career including the appeal of a subject that has a balance of logic and science and the special and distinguished position reserved for those who pursue classical studies. According to Dr. De Luca, classical studies are highly respected and afford those who study them a great deal of academic freedom and flexibility.

"The most important draw to the classics for me is the mystery of not knowing why I am drawn to it and why I want to do it, said De Luca. "I just do it."



Foreman encourages environmental justice

from ***Levitt****, page 1*

sory Council (NEAC), he slowly realized that the movement he had expressed so much interest in was deeply flawed.

Environmental justice's first limitation, Foreman proposed, is its tremendous inclination towards democracy, involvement and inclusion. While intuitively a strength, Foreman argues that this openness to everyone often tends to distract the environmental movement from accomplishing any of its tasks at hand.

"Government knows how to have meeting," Foreman said, "but the more permeable these organizations become to individuals...the farther they come from actually doing anything."

To illustrate his point, Foreman recounted a meeting of the NEAC that was forced to adjourn in disarray following an hour-long argument over the release from prison of a Native American environmental activist. A worthy goal, perhaps, but not one that had much to do with the NEAC.

"The larger point here," Foreman continued, "is that much of the process of public action and involvement is an attempt to respond to actions that environmental policy finds difficult to address."

Foreman's second main point regarding the weaknesses of the environmental justice movement focused on the way health is used as propaganda in many public policy campaigns. "I was struck by how limited our handle really is on environmental risk. Not just for low income people, but for people in general." Foreman explained that often times environmental activists feel forced to express their concerns about certain issues, be them health related or not, in terms of scientific medical research in order to lend a sense of legitimacy to their cause. All to often, however, these scientific "studies" are based on poorly collected data, or no data whatsoever.

"All of this is symptomatic of a movement whose members feel they have to talk n this type of language to be legitimate...They'll invoke health risk, not because they want things to be medicalized, but because they know its one way to be heard."

Finally, Foreman commented on the myth of opportunity that so much environmental justice activism seems to have at its core. "There is an enormous appetite for using environmental justice for economic good," Foreman lectured, "and I'm a cheerleader for anything we can do to help people in these [disadvantaged] communities. But, I'm not terribly hopeful."

Foreman went on to explain that brown field and other economic redevelopment projects often have wealthy developers and corporations as their top priorities and their top beneficiaries. Often the only jobs these redevelopment projects create are niche positions for employees with niche technical skills. The average worker in the average depressed community gains little.

Foreman was the fourth, and final, speaker in the semester's Levitt Center on environmental public policy issues. Paul Hagstrom, associate professor of economics and director of the Levitt Center Series explained that the project's goals were to take one public policy issue and relate it to a wide range of academic disciplines, from political science, economics and sociology, all the way to philosophy and ethics.

"Our goal is to take one topic and help students to see it from a wide array of perspectives and angles," Hagstrom said. "Hopefully they will take what we show them and connect it to their wider world."

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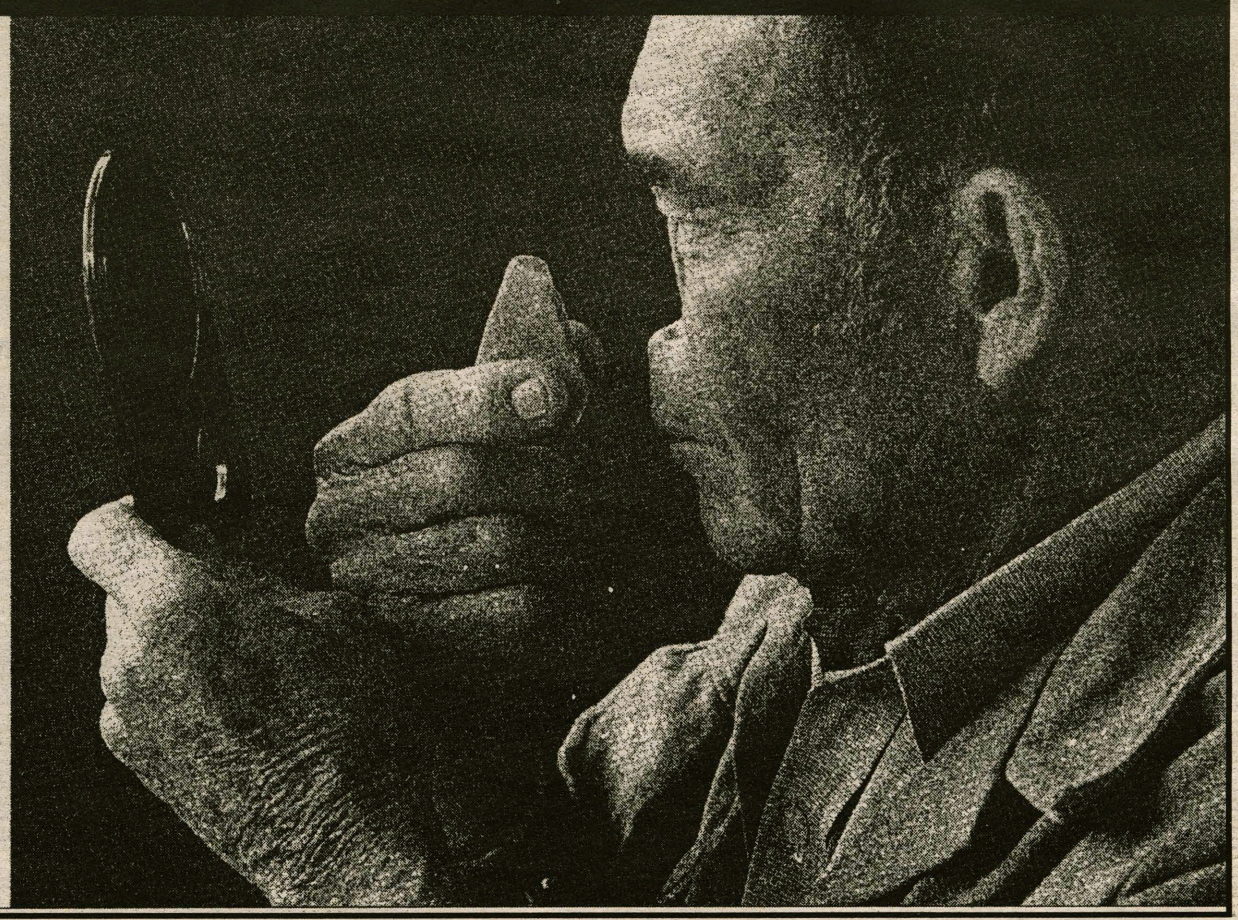

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Cancellations leave society house forum one-sided

*from **Forum**, page 2*

within the College discouraged the faculty from participating.

"In my opinion I think the College was wary of speaking because this issue creates con[t]raversy, but also because I feel the school does not want to even discuss the issues because they might hurt the 'reputation' of the school," Weydemeyer wrote in the e-mail.

Weydemeyer announced that he originally intended to have both speakers who favored and those who opposed society houses, but the withdrawal of the faculty speakers eliminated the latter group. In its original format, Weydemeyer would have acted as a mediator between the two sides; however, he declared that he, along with Worth and Kurtzman, would all argue in favor of houses.

Worth pointed out that society houses would allow the College to better regulate rush and pledge periods. He also asserted that houses would allow societies to better accommodate their pledges.

Kurtzman identified what he believes the problems with society houses to be, mentioning damage, drinking and sexual assault. He stated that despite the removal of houses, students still drink during the week, making it difficult to concentrate on work in the dorms. He insisted that it is students' responsibilities to get their work done, by going to the library or through some other means.

Kurtzman also denied a correlation between society houses and sexual assault, stating, "if it's gonna happen, it's gonna happen." His comments reflected his belief that sexual assault is not more prevalent in society houses than in other atmospheres, such as dorms.

Weydemeyer and Kutzman both emphasized the issue of unity within societies. They pointed out that after pledging together as one, the current residential life system forces them to be separated throughout campus. Weydemeyer stated that he would favor sorority houses as well as fraternity houses.

Kurtzman spoke about the negative atmosphere that exists between the "decision makers" and the students, a consequence of a prevalent "close-mindedness" on campus. He stated that the ISC has been working hard to improve the perception of affiliated students through philanthropic activities and events such as Al-Ham Weekend. Kurtzman believes that that faculty want Greeks to show that they "can be a positive force" on campus.

Worth conceded that Hamilton students "need to step back" and examine their behavior and excessive consumption of alcohol, citing events at a recent off campus party where students were too rowdy to board a school bus.

Matt Amoroso '05, a member of the audience, commented that the administration neglects who they are alienating, stating that some of the most important students on campus are members of Greek societies. He expressed his belief that the majority of Student Assembly and of varsity athletes are affiliated. He also made the point of labeling these students as leaders, both socially and academically.

The forum also discussed the common belief on campus that Greek students are responsible for the recent wave of campus vandalism.

Jessica Weaver '04 commented that the issue of damage is a matter of respect. She pointed out that when Greek students don't respect the campus, a metaphorical "noose" tightens around their necks.

Greg LiVigne '05 elaborated, arguing that the students who are inflicting the damage will be on campus, regardless if they are affiliated with a society. He pointed out that the blame for damage should be laid on individuals, not societies.

At one point, an audience member directed a question directly at Mitchell about the lack of faculty presence.

Baffled by the question, Mitchell responded, informing all in attendance that she had no idea why her colleagues were not present. She was also quick to point out that the issue of bringing back society houses is "not on the table [and is] not supposed to be on the table."

Weydemeyer was pleased with the results of the forum, especially considering the last minute cancellation of the faculty members.

"I think there was a lot accomplished. I wanted to know how the Hamilton Community felt about the issue of fraternity houses from those in favor and those opposed...I feel the goals were accomplished despite the lack of students in attendance," Weydemeyer wrote.

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Small = 8 pieces Large = 16 pieces

Items
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Insights and Ideas

No Straw Men: Ideas matter – why civilizations clash

by Jonathan Rick '05
INSIGHTS & IDEAS COLUMNIST

"Armies are in motion," observes Paul Berman, author of Terror and Liberalism (2003), "but are the philosophers and religious leaders, the liberal thinkers, likewise in motion? There is something to worry about here," Berman continues, "an aspect of the war that liberal society seems to have trouble understanding-one more worry, on top of all the others, and possibly the greatest worry of all." That worry is deeply philosophical, and we ignore it at our peril.

Indeed, the current war boils down to differences over basic ideas; the real war is the war of ideas. To be sure, we must fight the physical war and contain anti-American terrorism, but ideas matter — Ayn Rand told us that culture trumps politics — and in the long run the wrong ideas, if unchecked, will only spur more kamikazes.

Some say these wrong ideas evince an epochal antipathy between what I will term "political Islam"[1] and the West, a "clash of civilizations" in Samuel Huntington's formulation, which shapes the essence of their mutual cultural alienation. Yet what is this essence? What is it that we, as Americans, stand for? Who hates what we stand for? And what do they stand for? If the answers have been ambiguous-for one, "terrorism," as Daniel Pipes repeatedly remarks, is a tactic, not an enemy-Berman brings them into focus.

His most useful contribution to our understanding of World War 4[2] lies in his commentary on, based on English translations of, the Egyptian theologian Sayyid Qutb (1906-66). A member of the Muslim Brotherhood, the prototypical Islamic terrorist organization that politicized a fundamentalist interpretation of Islam, Qutb violently opposed Nasser's secular régime. Indeed, responding to an attempted assassination by a member of the Brotherhood, Nasser imprisoned and/or executed many of its members.

Still, the Brotherhood remained active underground, and thirty-five years later Qutb's poisonous legacy shot up in three Boeing 747s, by way of a new Brotherhood, known as al Qaeda. (In fact, Qutb's younger brother Muhammad taught Islamic studies in Saudi Arabia, where one of his students was Osama bin Laden.)

As the writer Chris Sciabarra puts it, "pining for a theocratic Islamic caliphate," Qutb denunciated modernity and lamented the dualistic "schizophrenia" of the secular and the sacred. But, rather than seeking transcendence in a way that would allow both to exist within a larger context, Qutb sought to destroy secular life by engulfing life itself in religion.[3]

His acutest quarrel was not with America's failure to uphold its principles; his quarrel was with the principles. Scorning our materialism, capitalism, individualism, humanism, rationalism, decadence, and moral laxity, Qutb championed austerity, self-sacrifice, collectivism, faith or feeling above reason or science, and self-denial. In Qutb's view, the former traits not only induce mental confusion and spiritual corruption, they also graft that "slavery" onto the pure Islamic soul. In return, the latter traits not only induce a "show of will," they also induce a show of force.[4]

And yet, for Qutb, the most offensive element of liberalism is not power (though he seeks a return to the time when Islam was today's America, particularly militarily), but its separation of state from church. His vision of "liberation" thus entails strict adherence to Islamic law, sharia, or, as Berman writes, "freedom from false doctrines that fail to recognize God."

Indeed, that bin Laden sees Saddam Hussein as an apostate is an extension of this "liberation," which repudiates Zionists and Christian Westerners from without, and secularists from within; the political Islamists want to marginalize or destroy not only the Pan Arabists, but also any liberal Muslims. The implications of Qutb's virtue-crusade are unmistakable; its necessity for enforcement echoes the totalitarian experiments of fascism, Nazism, and communism.

Yet, indeed, Qutb's progeny realize this. Thus, they furiously beat back the discotheques and Big Macs in Iran and Bali, they try to stone women to death for adultery in Nigeria, and they knock down those towers of Babel in New York. For, as Dinesh D'Souza argues in What's So Great about America, freedom entails the freedom to choose one's virtue.

But why the show of force and not just the show of will? As Berman implies, and Professor John Lewis makes explicit, "Nihilism, the desire to destroy, is why the enemies of [liberalism] fly planes into buildings." For to them, anything this-worldly has no moral value; only a supernatural paradise awash with virgins has meaning.

Moreover, "commerce, mixed populations, artistic freedom, sexual license, scientific pursuits, leisure, personal safety, [and] wealth" — all the creature comforts of we infidels — come with the "usual concomitant, power." Thus, in order to stand a fighting chance, jihad accompanies, in effect co-opting, the exercise in philosophical cleansing.

Still, our enemy is not coextensive with any particular religion, like Islam, or any particular region, like the Arab or Muslim street. Rather, the enemy is wider-the enemy is an idea, a political ideology that revolts against the liberal world order "in a cosmic battle over the future course of the human experience."

And yet, an idea needs ideologues, and in their twenty-first century incarnation these ideologues tend to web Islam and politics. Geographically, as Victor Davis Hanson notes, our enemies also benefit from Islamic sanctuary in "Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Iran, the West Bank, Lebanon, and Yemen, money from Saudi Arabia and pan-Arabic charities, and indirect political tolerance and at times covert support from members of the Saudi Royal family, the government of Basher Assad, Saddam Hussein, the Taliban, elements of the Pakistani government, and Yasser Arafat."

Here, I depart slightly from Berman, in that I situate this ideology in a larger context. For instance, who do you think wrote the following? "Man is made of mud and ashes. . . . Why are you proud, O mud? Wherefore art thou exalted. . . . O the vile ignobility of human existence! O the ignoble condition of human vileness. . . . Happy are they who die before birth, who experience death before tasting life."

If you thought Sayyid Qutb or Osama bin Laden, you'd be wrong; Pope Innocent III wrote these words in the twelfth century AD. But would Qutb or bin Laden have disagreed? Indeed, whether they are American Evangelical Christians living in the Bible Belt, Orthodox Jews in the West Bank settlements, or political Muslims in Pakistani madrasas, our enemies all merely spin different variations on the same basic ideas.

Of course, it took centuries to liberalize the Western mind, and it is liable to take generations for liberalism to germinate in the mind of our enemies. This, however, is precisely what they do not want. Of all people, Ayatollah Khomeini understood the aforesaid "essence" better than anyone.

Khomeini said: "We are not afraid of economic sanctions or military intervention. What we are afraid of is Western universities." Indeed, if one considers, as Khomeini and Qutb did, Western universities as a symbol of the unfettered mind, of reason given full play, of the right to question anything, then the terrorists are right to fear, nay welcome, the West.

There is just one last problem. "To arrive at a situation in which Nazis have conquered Europe," Berman explains, "you

*see **No Straw Men**, page 9*

Thumbs Up Thumbs Down Who Cares?

- Streaking through Colgate's toga party

- The Paris Hilton sex tape spreading over campus faster than last year's herpes wave.

- The 80's party exchanging genital rubbing for the Electric Slide.

- Nakul's long, flowing, lustrous locks... and running your hands through them.

- Booty calling: All the enjoyment, half the effort!

- Stacey's mom. *

- Nothin' Fancy's S&R missions by Hamilton's sober filthy few.

* "That is so stupid." - Avery

- The dance team getting more funding than the Kirkland Project. Those earwarmers really exude sex appeal, ladies!

- Michael Jackson introducing himself as a sex offender in a neighborhood near you... again.

- Drunk columnists threatening to quit every 5 minutes.

- Ignoring that nagging sense that walking to North Lot in a blizzard for quasi-running buses might be a bad idea.

- Guys in the gym checking themselves out after every rep. Wow, you look HUGE, do you work out?!

Nakul Patel '05, Peyton Gray '05,
Avery Schlicher '05, ~~Matt Colman '06~~

- Registration. I'll take Dance for 500, Alex.

- Isn't every night at Hamilton 80's themed?

- The snow melting for two days.. "Hey Jenny, let's go tanning on the quad!"

- Using winter as an excuse for the freshman 15. Lay off me, I'm hibernating!

- The squash team: Hamilton's only D1 team scoring a trip to Amsterdam to... train?

- Talib Kweli being late because he went to catch the 9:30 showing of *Kill Bill* at Sangertown.

- "I think I have no game because I'm an RA." -Nakul

Come on Clinton:

The closet conundrum – Hamilton and homosexuality

Klitora Kirkland
Sarah Schwartz '04

Phallixander Hamilton
Dan Fiore '04

DISCLAMER: The purpose of Come on Clinton is to discuss sex and sex related issues at Hamilton College in a light-hearted, non-judgmental, responsible way, with the goal of creating a publicized dialogue regarding issues that are often discussed by and impact the student body. Due to the liberal nature of the column, some may find the content inappropriate or offensive. Reader discretion is advised.

On a weekend excursion to Boston College, Phallix did some investigative journalism. After a late night of partying with an old friend, Phallix found himself in an unusual situation, as he was propositioned for a hook up by a "straight" male. In the name of journalism, Phallix felt it was his duty to find out about the inner workings of this supposedly straight man who wanted nothing more than a little Phallix love. (Oh Phallix, you selfless sex bomb!)

His investigation of the sexually ambiguious (but clearly not so straight) "straight" man involved some shady dialougue. While Phallix made it clear to his new friends that he didn't not want to "screw with" his head, Phallix's shady pal replied, "No, screw with my head baby." When finished, the mysterious creature walked Phallix back to his friend's dorm, and they discussed their sketchy night over a post-activity Parliament light.

Phallix learned that this was apparently the first time his partner for the night had engaged in guy-on-guy action. In addition to this, Phallix learned that this sexually ambigious man has had many previous girlfriends with whom he had supposedly "engaged in activities" on multiple occasions.

Phallix arrived back on the Hill excited, yet extremely perplexed. After divulging the results of his undercover investigation to Klitora, the two discussed the way that heterosexual "vibes" on college campuses (perhaps excluding Bard, Skidmore, Hampshire, and FIT) work to make people keep their homosexuality a secret. Phallix and Klitora couldn't help but wonder: is Hamilton gayer than it seems?

Sexuality-Based Labels

One popular form of labeling is the "pick a side and stay there" approach. Some people seem to be more comfortable with the two labels of either gay or straight, denying anything in between. Others argue that sexuality-based labels are over-emphasized.

These people may be more comfortable with the Sexuality Continuum, in which sexuality is seen as a long line with "straight" on one end and "gay" at the other – we all fall somewhere along this line, and no one is completely at one end or the other. This view seems to be more popular among the students we talked to.

One spicy sophomore lady talked about labels doing more harm than good: "Whenever I try to label myself, I end up getting more confused." A senior agreed with this idea, as she thinks that "labels would be more valuable if they weren't so stigmatized." Basic labels are necessary when discussing sexuality, but can be restrictive, and can create stereotypes.

Another student had a problem with labeling because he feels that "one's sexuality is not the concern of society in general; it is the personal, internal feeling one has," and he may be right.

Making your sexuality known to others is a personal choice, but many have the tendency to believe that we are all straight until proven otherwise (gotta love that heterocentricitiy). Unless you're a man with a blowup doll in the alluring shape of Gene Tobin bouncing around with you at all times, we'll never really know if you are or if you aren't.

Closet Who?

There is speculation about certain Hamilton students being in "the closet." In the closet, of course, refers to a person who is gay but is not willing to admit it to friends, or anyone else for that matter. There did not seem to be consensus among the students what we interviewed as to how many Hamilton students may or may not be closeted (so much for 'gay-dar').

Regardless of the size of Hamilton's closet, students in the closet should know that other students, both in and out of the closet, feel their pain. One vocal senior male realizes that "people do things at their own pace, there's no rush," and encourages everyone to eventually "be who you really are!" Another student "doesn't blame the people in the closet for being there," but blames "the other people that make them feel that they can't be safe or 'normal' if they come out."

Coming out is a complicated process that everyone does in their own way. When you come out, be sure you are comfortable, and be sure to leave Phallix's Prada shoes in the closet.

Boys or Girls

Our sexy consultant from Skidmore College dabbled in lesbianism last year. It began as just kissing at parties while getting ogled by straight men, but then became something private, and something truly just for her. The shift in her reception as a "lesbian" was appalling. While it was acceptable and even encouraged for her to be sexual in public, it was frowned up on when she did it in private.

Indeed, there seems to be this obsession with seeing girls make out in the college setting. But what does it mean? Straight men are only "okay" with lesbianism if it's ultimately about them. Having two women kiss for your sexual enjoyment does not equal lesbianism!

One person we interviewed found the girl on girl action at Bundy parties to be irritating because these girls engaging in the behavior are generally "flaming heterosexuals" who won't let her "join in on the fun."

Gay OK

While Hamilton does not seem to be the most conducive environment to being gay, there definitely seem to be more advantages than one might think. Phallix quickly learned that mentioning one's sexuality in a paper, even if it's not necessarily relevant to the topic, will result in no less than a B plus.

Also, while there may be an atmosphere of heterosexism at Hamilton, there are plenty of students who are extremely accepting of the gay lifestyle. Being gay usually means a large group of supporters, especially for gay men who may end up having women fighting for their friendship, as these women have most likely seem one too many episodes of Will and Grace.

And finally...

It seems that gay life at Hamilton can take a variety of forms: loneliness, excitement, uniqueness, and of course, horniness. It is important to keep a positive outlook on any situation, because you can often find a goodside to the most negative of scenarios. And if your sexual orientation, whatever it may be, gets hard to handle, keep your head up, you've got Phallix and Klitora behind you, sometimes under you.

Single of the Week:
Juliette "Vadge" Sank

COC: What are your turn ons, Vadge?
V: David muscles (winks at Phallix), and good pick up lines.
COC: What's a good pick up line?
V: Where are you sleeping tonight?
COC: Hot. And what's your response to that?
V: Where are *you* sleepin' tonight (said with step, snap, and attitude)?
COC: Even hotter. Once you get your mate home, what's your signature move?
V: I go for the "push on the futon and go for it" move.
COC: Do you prefer casual hook ups or relationships?
V: Casual hook ups. I don't like to be tied down, in a relationship anyway.
COC: So, after reading our last article about the sexual double standard, what do you think of the word "slut"?
V: Daaang, that's a dirty word!
COC: It can be. One last question, while we assume you practice safe sex, if you were really in the mood, and didn't have a condom, would you still do it?
V: Obviously not. I'm sure I could find other ways to still have fun (winks at Phallix again).

The views expressed by our Single of the Week do not necessarily represent the views of Come on Clinton, obviously.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, CONCERNS? WANT TO BE SINGLE OF THE WEEK? FEEL FREE TO E-MAIL DFIORE or SSCHWART!

Contact the Health Center @ x4111 with any health concerns. They've got free condoms on tap.
Contact the Counseling Center @ x4340 if you need to talk to a professional.
Protect yourself, physically and emotionally!

Ideas matter

*from **No Straw Men**, page 8*

not only need to have the Nazis themselves, you need to have all the other right-wing movements that look on Nazis in a friendly light, and you need to have left-wing opponents like the anti-war French Socialists, who cannot see that Nazis are Nazis."

Applying this pearl to our new enemies, we may conclude that to defend America — to defend Western civilization — we infidels need the proud, moral confidence and certainty to know that our ideas undergird life, that ours is the morality of liberalism and hence liberty.

In the same way, we must recognize that our enemy's ideas undergird death, that theirs is the morality of terror and hence tyranny.

[1] To be "radical" is to grasp things by the root, to examine their origins, to engage in analysis of fundamentals. Thus, following Ayn Rand, I am a self-described "radical for [laissez-faire] capitalism." But "radical," like "extremist" or "fundamentalist," while accurate, misses the point in describing the Islamic terrorists.

Daniel Pipes's formulation of "militant" Islam, while better, is in my view too broad and undistinguishing; to be a terrorist-of any variety-is by definition to be militant. Hence, "militant Islam" means "terrorist Islam," which lacks explanatory power.

Rather, what binds together those who have, in President Bush's word, "hijacked" Islam, is their political ideology; hence, "political Islam." (It's really "ideological" Islam, but while alliterative "ideological" is too wordy to catch on.) Now, of course, a political Muslim is not necessarily a terrorist.

And, yes, one can hold strictly to the sharia without resorting to force. But what makes the Muslim terrorists terrorists is that they web their religion with their politics.

[2] The "Cold" War was in fact World War 3 and the war on terror is as global, as varied, and as important as prior world wars.

[3] Of course, it is quite possible to enjoy spiritual values while eschewing religion; wrote Ayn Rand: "I would give the greatest sunset in the world for one sight of New York's skyline. The sky over New York and the will of man made visible. What other religion do we need?"

[4] Ian Buruma and Avishai Margalit, "Occidentalism," New York Review of Books, Vol. XLIX, No. 1 (January 17, 2002).

"Fine dining?"

by R. Andre Chapman '07
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS WRITER

Where do you usually eat on campus? The Diner, Commons, or McEwen? No matter where you eat, you're going to have to make some choices. The Diner is notorious for its insects, flies to be exact; Commons is notable for its messy tables and McEwen... well, I don't know where to start with McEwen.

Although these places have disadvantages, they also have advantages. It is nice to go to Commons because there is a great variety of food available, not to mention the great sushi bar.

The Diner is special because it has actual products that you can buy, so you feel more like a customer there.

McEwen... well, the only perk that comes to mind when I think about McEwen is the location. People that live on the Dark side have a convenience in going there.

Maybe that's just my opinion because I live on the light side, but I have eaten at McEwen only a few times. Immediately, I noticed that there was less of a variety, and that the atmosphere of McEwen was not very inviting. I mean, you could eat there if you didn't want to walk a little further, but it's nicer at Commons.

I agree that McEwen is a lot like Commons in terms of the food that they serve. They are comparable in that sense, but what that brings to the foreground is the fact that they are totally different in terms of atmosphere.

The large room in Commons is quite like the dining hall in Harry Potter, which is very whimsical. Then you have McEwen dining hall, which is comparable to Commons in terms of food, but cannot amount to Commons in terms of atmosphere.

Although McEwen may have a variety of colored chairs, the concrete walls are very drab.

I mean, of course the concrete walls provide shelter, but is that all we're looking for in a good dining area? Do we not want the area to be inviting?

The Diner is great in terms of appearance: it's retro and that's cool. What is (or, now that it's growing colder, was) totally un-acceptable at the Diner are the flies. It is obvious that it is not the employees that we should thank for the disappearance of the annoying, yet disgusting little insects. It is Mother Nature. It is because the temperature has dropped tremendously over the past couple of weeks that the insects haven't been able to survive long enough to get inside the Diner.

This is a good thing, but what about when the temperature goes up again. What will we do then? There needs to be more control in terms of the atmosphere we create in our commonly used facilities here at Hamilton, particularly in our dining halls.

Commons is the best of the three, although it has its problems. Sometimes it gets a little messy, and that is something that can easily be solved. Just put more time and effort into making sure that the place is clean, all the time.

There have been times that I have went to Commons and having a tray full of food, wanting to sit down, had to settle for a filthy table, so I take it upon my self to clean the table before I begin eating. The cleanliness of the tables in the dining halls contributes to the atmosphere they create. If the tables aren't clean in Commons, it becomes less inviting., and less people want to eat there.

If I had to rank the dining halls, Commons would come in first with a score of 8 out of 10, The Diner would come in second, thanks to Mother Nature, with a 7, and McEwen would come in third with 5.

This goes to show how the atmosphere of the dining halls shouldn't be over looked. Every little bit counts. The atmosphere could be the deciding factor in which dining hall the students choose to eat at, so Hamilton should make a better attempt at keeping our dining halls clean and hospitable.

Trial of the century (of the day)

by Jonathan Kuhl '06
MANAGING EDITOR

Tuning in to any news program, I haven't been able to escape the media storm centered around Michael Jackson. He is accused of sexually molesting a young boy between the ages of twelve and thirteen years old. On Thursday, while in handcuffs, the 80's pop superstar surrendered himself to authorities in Santa Barbara, California.

Ever since Jackson's "Neverland Ranch" was searched by police, television networks ranging from NBC and CNN, all the way to CourtTV have covered the story relentlessly. Although someone with the amount of fame Jackson has does merit some press coverage, the extremes that even America' most respectable news sources are going to are becoming sickening.

I don't think that the idea of Michael Jackson molesting a child, while detestable, is really all that surprising. Rumors and jokes about Jackson's sexual behavior have been in the public eye ever since the first accusation of sexual molestation in 1993.

The only difference between the 1993 incident and the current one is that since then the laws regarding child molestation have changed. Unlike the last time he was accused of sexual deviancy, Jackson will apparently not be allowed to pay off the victim in exchange for the minor not testifying against him.

While all this is interesting, a simple update on the case's progress is all that news programs need and should cover. Michael Jackson, while perhaps a valuable part of Entertainment Tonight's broadcast, should not dominate serious news shows.

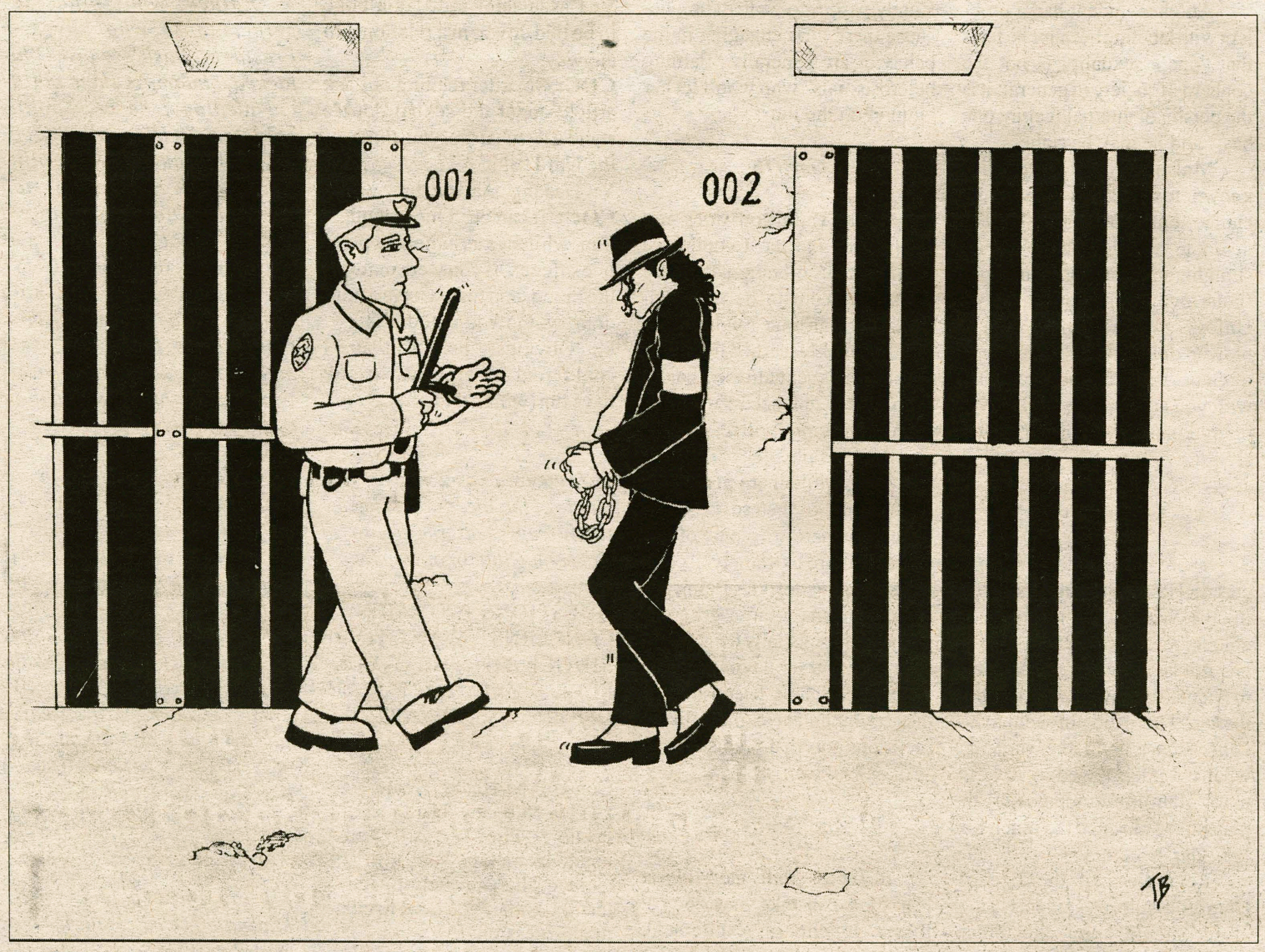
Jackson is clearly a sick and disturbed man, there's really no argument there. However, while famous, Jackson should simply just be left alone. Let the law work its course, but when there are far more important issues in the world, Michael Jackson should not be a big story.

Perhaps people have forgotten, but there are still American troops in both Iraq and Afghanistan. There is also a serious competition for the Presidency, a debate over prescription drugs, and the issue of legalizing gay marriages - there isn't a lack of issues to cover. The Michael Jackson case, however, is already being called the "trial of the century;" yet, it isn't the only oversensationalized news story today.

You can't watch news programming these days without being subjected to repetitive, nauseating, and utterly irrelevant news stories with regard to the lives of most Americans. CNN, for example, devotes endless amounts of their coverage to stories like the sniper shootings trial and the Laci Peterson trial. But why?

I suppose the argument is ratings, but I won't settle for that excuse. If mindless stories are what grabs the ratings, to me, that only means that the networks need to do a better job of making the important stories more interesting.

By airing stories aimed to the lowest common denominator, it only indicates one thing about a network: that they aren't up to the challenge of presenting the public with the real news, in a way that they think is worth their time.



Drawing Criticism: by Tom Booth '06

The Hamilton College Democrats

invite you to come watch the next Democratic presidential debate (and eat pizza).

Monday, November 24th
9pm - 11pm
in the Little Pub

Letters to the Editor

THE SPECTATOR'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMNUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECT ION EXPRESS THE OPINION OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF *THE SPECTATOR*, ITS EDITORS, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, T*HE SPECTATOR* HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION:

1. Submissions are due by 6:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before publication. Submissions can be sent by email to spec@hamilton.edu or to the individual I&I editors (adavis@hamilton.edu or wcheneve@hamilton.edu). The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

Dear Editor,

I attended Hamilton Parents' weekend and would like to make more of your student body aware of the absurdity that took place there on Sat AM. I would be very interested to learn of any reactions on campus to the Pepsico presentation. Thanks for your printing this and call me with any questions.

A conversation, recently overheard at a local Walmart:

"Mornin' welcome to Walmart". "Mornin', welcome to Walmart"!

"Neil Neudorfer, is that YOU???"

"Yeah, hello Mr. Lynch, and welcome to my world!"

"Neal, did you drop out of Hamilton? Isn't it supposed to be one of the top twenty of the smaller colleges in the country?? Was it finances? Was the work load too much for you?"

"No sir Mr. Lynch, I am doin' swell, kinda towards the top of my class in fact. This is a weekend gig."

"Well fine, but what gives, being a greeter here at Walmart of Ilion?"

"Well heck, my folks attended a speech at Hamilton Parents' Weekend last month, and were shocked to learn that one of the best career paths I could choose was to begin my career at Walmart. You know my old man, Mr. Lynch, he always says "Start at the bottom and work your way up". So, if I succeed here at Walmart, basically 'the world is my oyster' as he would say."

"What kind of a Comedy Central skit were they pulling up there on The Hill?"

"No sir Mr. Lynch, this was an alumnus of Hamilton, and a highly respected VP at one of the largest and most powerful corporations in the world - PEPSICO! In fact, the President of the college introduced him as having a 'wonderful smile and very warm eyes.'"

"HMMM. PEPSICO - aren't they one of the mega companies that specialize in all the fatty junk food and glorified sugar water that rots teeth and causes this country to be astoundingly obsese?? Between meal snacks are their stock and trade!"
Talk about 'evil doers!!?'"

"I know very few if ANY of their products are exactly "healthy eating" or on any of MY diets!! Did you know they gross about a buck on EVERY 12 oz bottle of soda that they peddle here, and in more vulnerable, less educated third world countries like Mexico? Do you realize their advertising budget is in the billions??"

"Yeah, Mr. Lynch, that's what this VP was saying in his speech - learn Spanish because Mexico is their major target market! In fact he says Walmart will some day 'rule the world,' so start at Walmart!"

"Rule the world?? PEPSICO?? Walmart??"

"Neil, what happened to all the critical thinking, the social responsibility, the higher ideals of a Liberal Arts education your folks forked out $150,000 for??"
"Have you ever stopped to give that some thought?"

"Wow, Mr. Lynch, that sure does gives me something to ponder??"

"Yeah Neal, what's that??"

"Is there a Walmart in Cancun?? Gotta down load some tunes, and score some cheap seats on e-bay!! Spring Break is coming!"

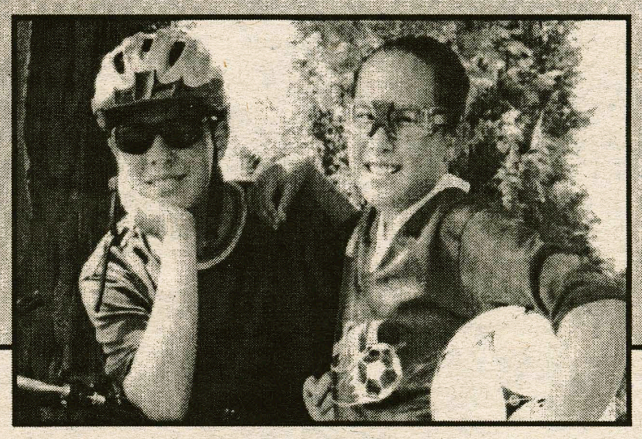
"Best of luck, Neil."

"Yeah, have a nice day Mr. Lynch!"

"Mornin', welcome to Walmart! Buenas dias amigos, gracias a vende de Walmart!" Mornin', welcome to Walmart! Buenas dias amigos, gracias a vende de Walmart..."

Signed,
A concerned Hamilton parent,
John M. Lynch,
Moretown, Vermont

Play it Safe
"It's all fun and games until someone loses an eye..."



That's what your parents told you when you were a kid. Shouldn't you tell your children?

Each year thousands of children suffer unnecessary sports-related eye injuries — bruised eyes, scraped or torn corneas, detached retinas and eye hemorrhaging.

Vision Council of America, a nonprofit trade association representing the optical industry, wants parents to know that wearing protective eyewear can prevent or lessen the severity of most eye injuries.

Talk to your eyecare professional about protecting your child's eyes. Safety standards do exist for many sports and your eyecare professional will be able to help you find the eyewear appropriate for your child's activities.

For more information, talk to your eyecare professional or visit the consumer area of VCA's Web site, www.visionsite.org.

PROTECT YOUR CHILD'S EYESIGHT

VCA Vision Council of America

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GOTHIKA HALLE BERRY ●1:00●3:15▲5:25-7:30-9:35 R
LOVE ACTUALLY ●1:10▲4:00-6:50-9:40 DTS R
ELF WILL FERRELL STADIUM SEATING ●12:20●2:30▲4:55-7:10-9:25 #1 MOVIE! DTS PG
MASTER & COMMANDER: THE FAR SIDE OF THE WORLD RUSSELL CROWE ●1:20▲4:10-7:00-9:45 DTS PG-13
DISNEY'S BROTHER BEAR ●12:25●2:20▲4:30-6:30-8:25 G
LOONEY TUNES: BACK IN ACTION ●1:00●3:00▲5:00-7:00 BRENDAN FRASER PG
SCARY MOVIE 3 ●3:05▲5:05-7:05-9:05 PG-13
MATRIX REVOLUTIONS ●1:40▲4:25-7:15-10:00 R
RADIO ●12:50-8:50 CUBA GOODING JR. PG
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THE HOUSE THAT ROCK BUILT!
an imf benefit concert
featuring long since forgotten, this afternoon
nothing for you, the design, you win

please come and support habitat for humanity
and 2 new hamilton college indie rock bands:
you win
(ben critton, bob grannatt, jeremy kozak, jon rees)
the design
(john pappano, danny klag, chris fazio)

show starts at 7p on saturday in the bristol hub
and a donation is requested
(bring a quarter, we will be happy)

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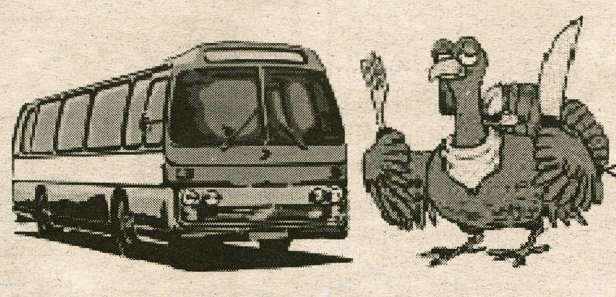

Thanksgiving Bus to NYC

What: Bus to NYC for Thanksgiving Weekend
When: Leaves 11/25/03 at 5:00PM from ELS Driveway
Returns 11/30/03 at 12:00PM from Port Authority
Where: Right here at Hamilton all the way to NYC
Cost: $49 one-way, $78 round-trip

Contact Eric: ebowman@hamilton.edu, x2839

Just bring a check or cash for Eric Bowman to the mail center. Put your name, email and phone number on it and you are registered.

Sign-up Now! The sooner, the better!

His smile says a lot about you.

Your gift to Volunteers of America brings smiles to the faces of individuals and families in need. Help us ensure that thousands of men and women in our community can lead happier, more productive lives.

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Volunteers of America

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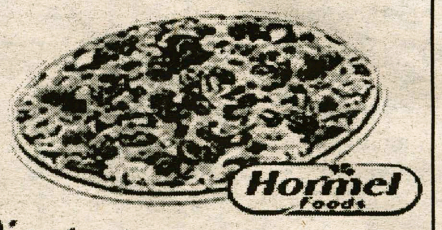

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Garlic, Hot Peppers, Black Olives & Tomato	13.95
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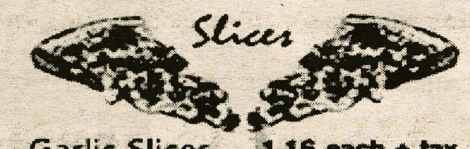
Grandes Famous Upside Down Pizza Marinara Sauce Topped With Grated Cheese	9.95

Pizza

	Small	Large
Cheese	6.00	8.95
1 Item	6.75	9.95
2 Items	7.50	10.95
3 Items	7.75	11.95
4 Items	8.50	12.95

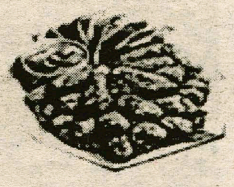
Small = 8 pieces Large = 16 pieces

Items
Broccoli, Eggplant, Sausage, Mushrooms, Pepperoni, Peppers, Onions, Meatballs, Spinach, Anchovies, Double Cheese, Black Olives



Garlic Slices.....1.16 each + tax
Pizza Slices.....1.16 each + tax
Extras .....35c each

10 Wings	4.75		
20 Wings	6.75	80 Wings	19.95
30 Wings	8.75	90 Wings	21.95
40 Wings	11.95	100 Wings	24.95
50 Wings	13.95	150 Wings	35.00
60 Wings	15.95	200 Wings	46.00
70 Wings	17.95	250 Wings	54.00



Frank's RedHot
Celery 85c Extra
Bleu Cheese 85c Extra
Buffalo Style CHICKEN WINGS

Making room for more: parking issues pose imminent problems on campus

by Bill Chenevert '05
INSIGHTS AND IDEAS EDITOR

Student Assembly minutes show up in the Class of 2005's inboxes, courtesy of secretary/treasurer Greer Mahoney '05, reporting the topics and issues covered at the last Student Assembly meeting. The most recent meeting, November 10, 2003, reported a visit by Karen Leach, Vice President of Administration and Finance, to collect the input of Student Assembly in devising the 2004-2005 budget.

The suggestions reported in the email are as follows: "More physical plant employees to ensure faster service; Extended hours at language labs, fitness center, and computer labs; Health center service on weekend days." Other suggestions included, "dining hall changes; long term renovations in KJ, theater, and dining halls; tuition increase for employee pay raises, utilities, and other expenses; athletic needs versus academic renovations." Suspiciously missing from this list of suggestions is parking.

The fact that Karen Leach is soliciting responses from the students is promising. The compilation of student opinions in creating a budget is a big stride in an attempt improve the quality of life for students on the Hill. Parking is one issue that many students feel could be improved.

Last summer, parking was improved in Dunham Lot, Root Extension, and Ferguson Lot. However, students are now not allowed to park in Dunham Lot, the regular Root Lot or Field Center parking, unless on the weekend or for short periods of time. A few parking projects are in order with the arrival of the Psi Upsilon house as a residence hall. Parking crises will certainly arise if fifty upperclassmen in Psi U are competing for parking spots in the DKE Lot or Wally J.

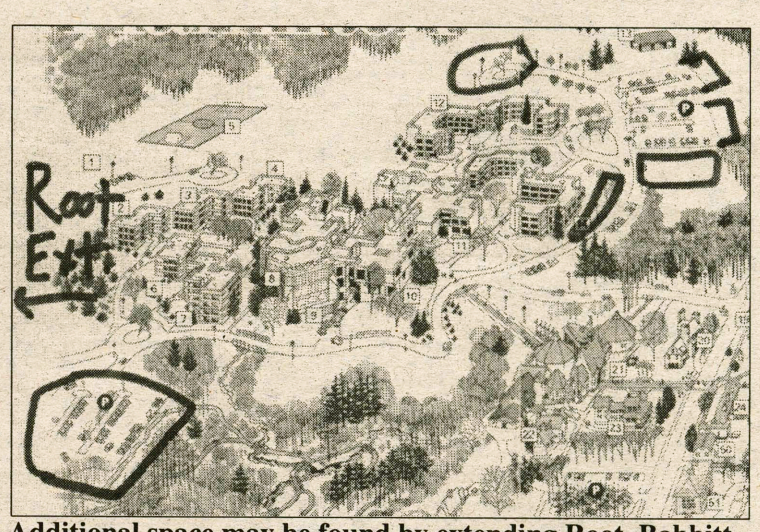
There will undoubtedly be a flurry of complaints from the seniors and juniors living in Psi U if they cannot bring a car of if they have to park their car in North Lot. DKE Lot, as it is now, is not adequately used. Cars can only park along the southern edge, leaving the northern edge of the lot unused. DKE Lot overlooks a large plot of land that could be perfect for parking spots. Although it is hilly, Milbank and Ferguson Lots are on hills. A Psi U parking crunch could also be alleviated by improving parking for the two Bundy dormitories.

Students often report close calls in their driving around the Bundy circle. The road that winds around the Bundies is narrow, with barely enough room to pass parked cars and conditions only worsen in the winter. A small lot added near the edge of the Glen, in addition to capitalizing on the wasted space around Bundy Dining Hall could go a long way towards eliminating the inevitable parking crisis.

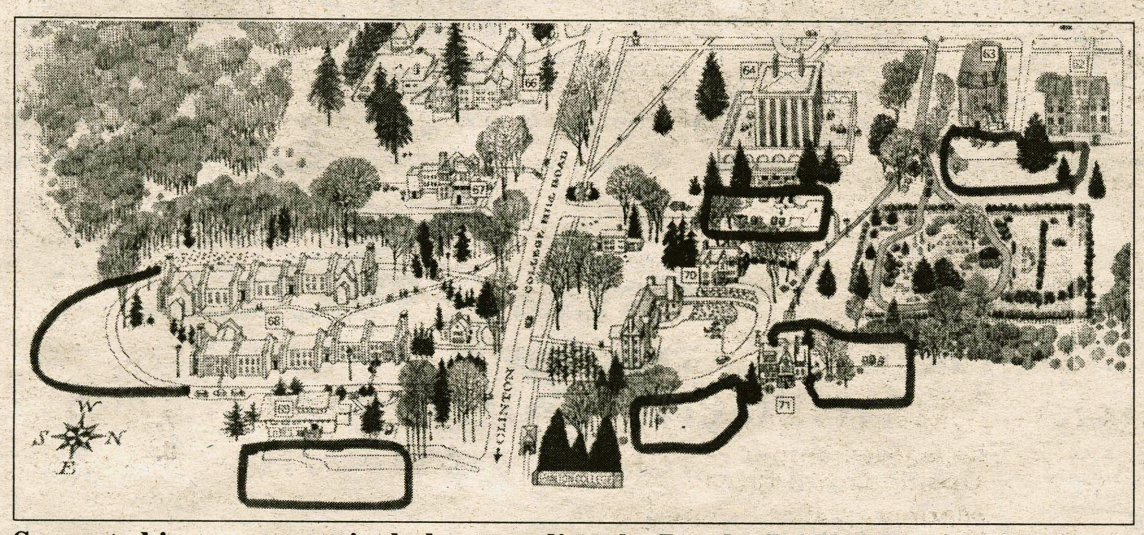
Sophomores in Milbank and Babbitt often resort to spots in North and New Lots, after being unable to get a parking spot in Root Extension or the Milbank/Babbitt Lot. Some simple additions to the current parking scheme on the South side of campus could offer at least 40-50 new spots. Minor Field's integrity does not need to suffer by adding some more parking around the Pavillion/Babbitt Circle. A strip of at least a dozen more spots could be added opposite the current staff parking spots in Milbank. Sophomore residents of Milbank and Babbitt relegated to spots in North Lot results in long, cold, unsafe walks in the winter, and an unwillingness to walk alone to North Lot is completely understandable. Wayne Gentile, Campus Safety Evening Supervisor, commented, "I would love to see North Lot increase, including the use of the Jitney to shuttle students to their cars. I'd also love to see the empty space behind Bundy Dining Hall used."

Lastly, parking in Bristol could be expanded to allow more use out of an unusually underutilized "Campus Center." Students often drive to Bristol for meetings and cannot find parking. Additionally, there is a lot of space behind Minor Theater and Eells House that could be used for parking.

The Office of Campus Safety has little to do with the availability or number of parking spots on campus. However, when students are often forced to park illegally due to inadequate lot space, Campus Safety has no choice but to enforce policy and ticket vehicles. Campus Safety human resources would be better suited in buildings, controlling damage and dealing with medical emergencies than patrolling the appropriate use of parking lots and writing parking tickets.



Additional space may be found by extending Root, Babbitt, and Milbank lots without infringing on Minor Field.



Suggested improvments include expanding the Bundy, Psi U, DKE, and Bristol parking areas as well as rethinking the parking area behind Minor Theater.

THIS WEEK IN HAMILTON HISTORY

26 YEARS AGO
November 18, 1977

*The following is an excerpt from an editorial written by Leslie Cook '77 in a column called **A View from the Skyline.***

Some of our college's administration are worried about alcohol consumption, on our campuses as well as others... They think we drink too much. You can smoke a joint anywhere on campus, but watch out if you've got an open can of Matts.

Don't go to the Pub please, it encourages drinking. Beer and bands, well, couldn't you have a "smoke-in" instead? Of course, the beer tents and cocktail parties are strictly fundraising affairs. But then, Playboy called those Hamilton boys "professional" drinkers. Got to keep up that old Hamilton spirit. Do we drink too much? Well, maybe we drink a lot, but do we need measures that keep us from drinking?

I recognize alcoholism like the abuse of anything in excess, to be a serious problem. Alcholics and their families tell us this. I question whether measures being to discourage alcohol consumption on campus, even closing the Pub at 1:30am instead of 2:00 will have much to do with whether or not someone is or becomes an alcoholic. The nearest bottle is at most two miles away. What's the point? To call such a policy a stand on drinking, in light of the faculty and administration's sherry hours, cocktail parties, and wine and cheeses, is only hypocricy...

To exchange one problem for another like fashionable clothing with the weather is foolish and incompetent to say the least. Educate us, yes, that's what we're here for. Help us where help is necessary. But to insist upon treating us like a bunch of half-wits of such weak character is only to mock our whole education, and in the end, is of benefit to no one.

3 YEARS AGO
November 17, 2000

The following is an excerpt from the Spectator Editorial in the November 17, 2000 edition.

In light of the recent tragedy that occurred at Colgate, Hamilton College President Eugene M. Tobin has designated some long, overdue changes.

For years, drunk driving by Hamilton students has been a cause of great concern. That problem has escalated this semester with Hamilton becoming stricter with its alcohol policy. Many students under the age of 21 have opted to try their luck at the bars downtown, while many students over 21 continue to frequent the downtown area.

Students have long called for increased jitney service and it appears that the clamoring has finally paid off. Tobin announced late Thursday that, "In response to our students' clear and persuasive calls for increased transportation to the Village of Clinton, the College intends to make a second van available for expanded jitney service on the weekends."

Tobin is on the right track, but we caution his warning that this may only be "temporary." If the President wants to eliminate the threat of drunk driving, he must not be myopic and believe that "temporary" increased jitney service will somehow eliminate the problem forever... Furthermore, instead of spending

*see **History**, page 14*

Want to write for Features?
We need you!!
Please contact sgould@hamilton.edu

An update from Student Assembly for the weeks ahead

Class of 2004

The Senior Class has been working hard these past few weeks. Mimosa morning went off without a hitch. The door-to-door service provided by the Jitney worked very well. All who came had a great time and had some pretty good food, too. There were a lot of faces there (over 140 people) so it was great to see so many different people from our class.

The Citrus Bowl is November 21. Please don't bring things, don't throw things, and don't tamper with the nets. Pick up your orange t-shirt at the door, and be safe. Also, check out the Citrus Bowl Happy Hour from 4:00-6:00pm prior to the game at the Little Pub. Dress up to show the most school spirit and you will win a killer prize.

Don't forget to donate something to the Senior Class gift. It's based on participation so anything you can give will help. Lastly, in the works for the future are the Senior Class Dinner, more Pub nights, and more Mimosa mornings. If you have any ideas for events, contact one of your class officers.

Class of 2005

First and foremost, the Class of 2005 would like to remind all students not to throw oranges onto the ice at the Orange Bowl this Friday. Class officers will be handing out orange t-shirts, hockey sticks, and beach balls to the fans. We encourgae you to cheer the hockey team on in other ways and maintain the traditional enthusiasm of the crowd.

Also, the officers of the Class of '05 wanted to inform their classmates that there will be class representative vacancies for the spring semester. A few '05 officers are going abroad and their positions must be filled. If you are interested in filling a vacancy, contact Elizabeth Dolan. More details will be announced in the upcoming weeks.

Class of 2006

The Sophomore class has many upcoming events in the following weeks. December 6th is the 2006 Philanthropy day. We will be going down to Utica to help restore an 1800's era building which will be used for after-school programs. We encourage everyone to come have fun and help out.

During the Citrus Bowl the Class of 2006 will be handing out inflatable hockey sticks to the first 250 spectators. So come early to get them! We are discouraging everyone from bringing oranges or any other items that might be thrown during the Citrus Bowl. If you are caught with them, Campus Safety will immediately ask you to leave the game and you may be written up.

The Class of 2006 and ACS has created what will hopefully be a long lasting tradition at Hamilton College - the Iron Chef contest. The Class of 2006, ACS, and with the support of Bon Appetit will be sponsoring a series of Iron Chef events throughout the year culminating in one final match at the end. ACS is trying to bring a real Iron Chef to campus possibly during Asian Week to kick off the contests. We encourage all groups to join (Culinary Club, Keehn cooks, faculty team, sports teams, Greek societies, groups of friends...etc.) Make your own team with a head chef and two assistant chefs, one assistant or none. Awesome prize will be given out to winner(s) at the end of the contest so start practicing over Thanksgiving vacation!!

Class of 2007

Hey Class of 2007!
Do you still remember us, the '07 student council? For sure you do. We are the ones who will bring you cookies, hot cider, coffees and plenty of laughter at our annual HamJam Showcase. The event will be held in Café Opus on Thursday, December 4, right after Thanksgiving break from 9:00-12:00pm. Show up and feel the heat even in this particularly chilly weather on the hill.

As the student representatives of the Class of 2007, we urge you to participate in such things as CCC, Open Forum, etc. to acquire more information and knowledge about what is going on around campus and to give some feedback to the student body, professors and administrators. This will help create a better on-campus environment.

Here again is the list of members of 07' student council: Hilary Gamble (President), Quang Nguyen (Secretary/Treasurer), Carrie Boehm (Representative), Zakiya Lesley (Representative), Sara Feuerstein (Representative), David Waldman (Representative), Justin St. James (Representative). Please contact us if you want to give any ideas, comments or even just need someone to talk to.

Adventures in upstate New York: Cafe Domenico

by Ellen Horbett '07
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Café Domenico offers a hip and relaxing hang out for any evening of the week. Located at 2011 Genesee Street, in Utica, the café boasts a pleasant atmosphere and the perfect environment for the studious or the chatty.

Upon entrance to this colorful café, you will notice the bright blue ceiling and rich aroma of brewing coffee. The experience continues as you take a seat and let your eyes meander along the decorated walls and shelves; artwork and posters attract the eye while cases of books present an option for those who wish to stay for a while. Much of the décor spotlights jazz and other local music features, but you can also find classic fiction novels or a book about the Galapagos.

If you're lucky, you may arrive for an evening of live local music, which turns up on a not-so-scheduled basis. You could also combine the trip to Domenico with an evening show at the Uptown Cinema across the street, rounding the night off with a specialty coffee, tea, or hot chocolate, and a "tempting" local pastry (supplied by Clinton's very own Dessert Booth). The café is open from 7 AM - 10 PM on Monday-Thursday, 7 AM - 11 PM on Friday, and 8 AM - 11 PM on Saturday.

If you are looking to get together with friends or to curl up with a book, Café Domenico will supply more than the right amenities: the lovely atmosphere, the warm drinks, and a bit of nice background music. Take a breather from campus life and enjoy some good coffee while you're at it.

To get to Café Domenico, take 12B (N) until you reach NY-5 (E). Turn right onto NY-5 (E) and turn right again (almost immediately) onto Genesee Street. Continue for about 2.5 miles and you will see the Café on the right, across the street from the Uptown Cinema. It should take about 15 minutes. If it's pouring like it was on Wednesday, allot a little extra time.

*from **History**, page 13*

incredible amounts of time in committees and talking abstractly about problems, Tobin needs to talk more candidly with students about their concerns, fears, and solutions.

In fact, sometimes we wonder why he is sometimes reluctant to go with his gut and make some decisions on his own, even if they prove to be unpopular ones. Having a committee or studying a problem for six months cannot always solve every problem. Tobin needs to use his judgement and realize that as one distringuished American put it, "You can't please all of the people all of the time."

Administrators (much like politicians) sometimes need to make decisions and statements without worrying about their popularity among students, faculty, fellow administrators, or trustees... We implore Tobin to not always look at things one way, but perhaps imagine himself in our shoes and figure out what policies and decisions he would want out of his administrators if he were a student here.

THE HOUSE THAT ROCK BUILT!
an imf benefit concert
featuring long since forgotten, this afternoon
nothing for you, the design, you win

please come and support habitat for humanity
and 2 new hamilton college indie rock bands:
you win
(ben critton, bob grannatt, jeremy kozak, jon rees)
the design
(john pappano, danny klag, chris fazio)

show starts at 7p on saturday in the bristol hub
and a donation is requested
(bring a quarter, we will be happy)

Science & Technology

The Myths and Realities of a Career in Medicine

by Jennifer Ruch '06
SCIENCE WRITER

On Saturday November 15, 2003, Leslie North, Coordinator of Health Professions Advising at Hamilton College, and Julie Chanatry, Chair of Health Sciences Advisory Committee at Colgate University, cosponsored a lecture for students interested in a career in medicine. The purpose of the program was to give students a realistic perspective on what is means to be a physician, to recognize the various fields of medicine, and to establish the personal qualities of a physician. Hopefully after partaking in the lecture, students gained a better idea of whether a career in medicine is really a good fit for them.

The keynote speaker and Hamilton alum, Lawrence Savett, MD, posed three questions for pre-meds: are you making an informed choice of career path, are you capable of putting in the required time and able to do the required work, and do you have a good heart? He said that one of the most positive aspects of being a physician is hearing other people's stories because it helps him keep things in perspective. Dr. Savett noted that the relationship between a doctor and a patient is special because the physical and emotional trust developed is so strong.

The first panel was a group of experienced physicians from various fields of medicine. They spoke about their professional journeys, choices they had to make, and how to integrate a family life into a professional life. Whether an undergrad is debating a career in medicine or feels certain that medicine is the right choice, the physicians agreed on the importance of shadowing a physician to provide a first-hand medical experience. The physicians also clarified the misconception that a liberal arts education hindering students, and encouraging them to take courses of interest and balance science courses. Another area of interest that the doctors touched on was the feasibility of combining a medical career with a personal life. Overall, everyone concurred that a doctor can have a family, but it takes a lot of sacrificing, and you have to remind yourself that being a doctor is only a job. It is also very important to have a strong support system to fall back on because a medical career presents many unexpected challenges.

The second panel was a group of medical students and residents. They reflected on how to integrate their life as a medical student with other parts of their life. They said that the general rule of thumb is to balance the important parts of life, including relationships with mentors, service to others, and time doing things you enjoy. It was helpful to hear their perspective on what to expect at medical school, the amount of work, and the stress of the "match" during your fourth year with a residency program.

The final panel provided a very frightening yet realistic part of a pre-med's undergraduate education: applying to medical school and getting what it requires to get in. Gregory Keating, PhD, Dean of Student Affairs at Upstate Medical College of Medicine, acknowledged that "you never wanted to be a pre-med. What you need to do to get into medical school is keep your eye on the target." All three admissions officers displayed enthusiasm for a career in medicine; however, it was "laced with reality." An applicant needs a strong science background, volunteer experiences, and a major in a subject he/she loves. Good recommendations are imperative, making it necessary to build connections with faculty members and other mentors. Also, if you feel uncertain about going to medical school right after college, it is okay to take time off and explore interests and talents.

At the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Keat Sanford, PhD, emphasizes the four H's: a good Head, a good Heart, open Hands, strong Habits of mind and character. Medical schools seek students with qualities such as the 4-H's combined with a solid academic transcript and meaningful extracurricular activities because they reveal promise of a determined individual who will become a well-balanced, compassionate physician.

Anyone interested in a career in any health profession should contact Leslie North, extension 4584, as soon as possible. Early planning can help you balance your life and give you time to participate in everything of interest at Hamilton.

The physics behind baseball

by Aram Kudurshian '06
SCIENCE EDITOR

In a study published recently in the November issue of *The American Journal of Physics*, scientists have determined the optimal formula for hitting home runs. Gregory Sawicki and Mont Hubbard of the University of California at Davis and William Stronge of the University of Cambridge, England, used advanced models that incorporated the pitch, batting, and flight phases of a baseball to understand the necessary criteria for hitting home runs.

According to *Scientific American*, the most important factor was the speed the bat traveled at when it connected with the ball; the faster the bat was swung, the farther the ball traveled. What the bat was made out of, however, had little influence to the overall distance the ball traveled.

In addition, contrary to popular thought, curve balls led to more home runs than fastballs. Quoted in *Scientific American*, the researchers determined that "the optimally hit curveball will travel farther than both the fastball and knuckleball, because of beneficial topspin on the pitched curve ball that is enhanced during impact with the bat." In other words, since fastballs have little to no backspin, when thrown , they spin the opposite direction and thus when hit have less lift and sink faster. The opposite is true for curve balls; since they have backspin when hit they are lifted higher and carried farther.

On the same topic of baseball, a report released in this months edition of *Nature*, describes how Peter McLeod and his colleagues at the University of Oxford, England, have researched how outfielders track a baseball in order to make a play. The authors suggest that players don't know where the ball will land nor if they will be able to intercept it.

The authors explain that players need to keep two angles in mind: the vertical height of the ball and the angle through which the player's gaze must shift as the ball moves. When the optimal path to a ball is followed, the angle of the height increases at a variable rate, slowing over time, while the angle of the player's gaze increases at a constant rate.

When tested with computer simulation, similar routes were taken with the programmed players, leading the researches to conclude that outfielders don't consciously think about where the ball will fall when they began their play.

While such research won't be able to directly influence the game; Mont Hubbard explained that studying the physics of baseball has given him a stronger appreciation of the instinctive skills of players. In a press release by UC Davis, Hubbard was quoted as saying "how they do it with so much power and so quickly is amazing!"

Write for the Science and Technology Section

akudursh@hamilton.edu

Featured sites of the week

Eurek Alert
> www.eurekalert.org

Scientific American
> www.sciam.com

Science Blog
> www.scienceblog.com

Science Daily
> www.sciencedaily.com

Science @ NASA
> science.nasa.gov

Science News Online
> www.sciencenews.org

Space Science
> www.southpole.com

TechDirt
> www.techdirt.com

The Why Files?
> www.whyfiles.org

Fewer but better computer science students?

by Aram Kudurshian '06
SCIENCE EDITOR

Ask almost any Hamilton students where the computer science department is located, and you will be greeted by a blank stare and a shrug. While it's possible that most people are simply unaware of the Ferry building, the drop in enrollment of students in the CS department is indicative of the current problem facing other colleges and universities across the country.

A recent article in the *USA Today* reports that the current slump in the technology sector has led to a drastic decrease in the number of computer science majors. Before the downturn in the economy, the article cites that Colorado State University had over 500 students declaring the major, with a peak of 526 in 2000. Now, there are only about 200 majors a year.

Previously one of the top five majors at Hamilton, the computer science department has only a handful of senior majors this year, with enrollment in intro courses falling by over half since last year. Higher level classes for the most part contain less than ten students, with some even being independent studies.

However, as Jay Lightfoot, director of the computer information systems department at UNC told *USA Today*, "declining numbers don't mean declining quality - just the opposite. The people who are coming through now are truly interested, whereas before, there were some who were enamored by the glitz [and well paying jobs]."

New Machine Can Detect Drugs Like Dogs

ATLANTA (AP) — A new invention can sniff like a dog, find drugs like a dog and help police catch criminals like a dog. But can the so-called "Dog on a Chip" replace the police officer's best friend?

Georgia Tech researchers have developed a machine that can instantly sniff out cocaine and other illegal drugs without the hassle of feeding, training and interpreting a police dog.

"This works the same way as the dogs," said Bill Hunt, the electrical engineering professor heading the project. "They're picking up on the vapors coming off the cocaine."

From a few feet away, the device can "smell" microscopic amounts of a particular substance — as little as one-trillionth of a gram. So far it's only programmed to detect cocaine. But Hunt says it could be developed to sniff out other drugs, anthrax, bombs, chemical agents and even cancerous cells.

The machine is a rectangular plastic box slightly smaller than a phone book attached to a cube with a chip inside it that detects substances. Two antenna-like tubes protrude from the cube — one sucks in air, the other spits it out.

Electronic nose technologies have been around since the 1980s, but none has been as sensitive as a dog's nose. And of course, chips lack a certain animated quality.

"Dogs are more fun," said Dan Gordon, a private investigator and owner of Homeland Security Dogs in Palm Springs, Calif. "You can throw a Frisbee with them."

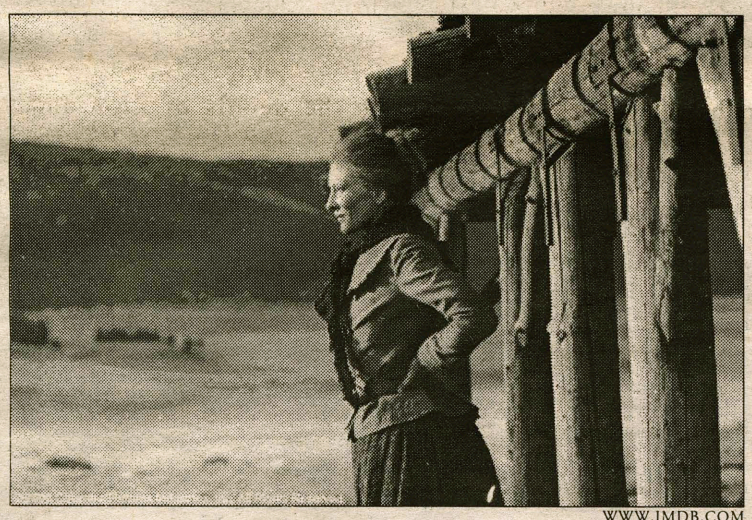
Movie News: Holiday Movie Preview

As Thanksgiving gets closer and closer Hollywood has slowly begun releasing films that are actually worth seeing. December is typically the month that higher quality movies come out (because of the Oscars), so naturally there is a lot of exciting movies being released in the coming month. So here are a few of the most noteworthy films and a bit of information about each one of them. Enjoy! *(Each summary is from www.imdb.com)*

The Missing

Release Date: *November 26*
Director: *Ron Howard*
Cast: *Cate Blanchett, Tommy Lee Jones, Rachel Evans Wood*

IMDB Summary: "In 19th-century New Mexico, a father comes back home, hoping to reconcile with his daughter, Maggie. Though Maggie is quite hostile towards her father, she struggles to work with him after her daughter is kidnapped by a group of Army deserters who have caused her pain in the past."



WWW.IMDB.COM

Cate Blanchett looks out upon the open range in Ron Howard's *The Missing* opening November 26.

While I will hate Ron Howard and Brian Grazer forever for the undeserved acclaim they won for the mediocrity that was *A Beautiful Mind,* I will admit that this film looks interesting. It seems genuinely unsettling, and Blanchett and Jones are two actors who are wonderful to watch. I also hear that Howard is more confident behind the camera with this than he has ever been. *The Missing* should be worth seeing!

The Last Samurai

Release Date: *December 5*
Director: *Edward Zwick*
Cast: *Tom Cruise, Ken Wattanabe, Billy Connolly*

IMDB Summary: "In Japan, Civil War veteran Captain Woodrow Algren trains Emperor Meiji's troops in the way of the gun as they prepare to defeat the last of the country's samurais. But Algren's passion is swayed when he is captured by the samurai and learns about their traditions and code of honor."

First Tom Cruise is a samurai and the next thing you know Brad Pitt is Achilles! What is the world coming to? Actually this looks reasonably good. The look of the film itself is beautiful while the story seems to be nothing more than *Dances with Wolves* in Japan. That might not be a bad thing, though.

Big Fish

Release Date: *December 12*
Director: *Tim Burton*
Cast: *Albert Finney, Ewan McGregor, Billy Crudup*
IMDB Summary: "William Bloom tries to learn more about his dying father by piecing together truths and reliving his tall tales."

Though Tim Burton's last film was *Planet of the Apes* I still like him. This film looks particularly interesting and fun. Albert Finney plays the elderly version of Ewan McGregor and both actors look as though they really enjoyed filming the movie. The visual style that Burton seemed to have lost with his last movie looks wonderfully whimsical in this, and I'll surely be there for this one opening day.

The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King

Release Date: December 17
Director: Peter Jackson
Cast: Elijah Wood, Sean Astin, Viggo Mortensen, Ian McKellen, et al.(except for Christopher Lee who has been cut).

IMDB Summary: "Frodo, Sam and Gollum make the final leg of the journey to Mount Doom to destroy the Ring, while Aragorn and the rest of the group defend the country of Gondor from the armies of Sauron."

Does anybody really think I'm not going to recommend this movie? And furthermore, does anybody really need any incentive to see this movie? Seriously though, if you need to miss one of your finals to see this just do it - you'll survive and it'll be worth it.

Mona Lisa Smile

Release Date: *December 19*
Director: *Mike Newell*
Cast: *Julia Roberts, Kirsten Dunst, Julia Stiles, Maggie Gyllenhaal*

IMDB Summary: "Set in 1953, Katherine Watson is a free-spirited graduate of UC Berkeley who accepts a teaching post at Wellesley College, a women-only school where the students are torn between the repressive mores of the time and their longing for intellectual freedom."

I do not know much about this film except that I know that I'm not that big a fan of Julia Roberts or Julia Stiles. The trailer looks pretty good but it may border on the overly sentimental. Fans of Harry Potter might want to check this out for the simple reason that its director, Mike Newell, is going to direct the fourth Potter film: *The Goblet of Fire.* Newell is the first British Director to work on the Potter films.

Peter Pan

Release Date: *December 25*
Director: *P.J. Hogan*
Cast: *Rachel Hurd-Wood, Jeremy Sumpter, Jason Isaacs, Olivia Williams, Lynn Redgrave.*

IMDB Sumary: "The Darling family children receive a visit from Peter Pan, who takes them to Never Never Land where an ongoing war with the evil Pirate Captain Hook is taking place."

Though the trailers to this film really have not convinced me, I have heard from a few sources that the script for this is exceptional. I think the idea of casting Jason Isaacs in the role of both Captain Hook and Mr. Darling is very interesting and clever. The film's special effects look to be on and off, but much of the look of the rest of it is beautiful. I like that Pan's costume is more faithful to J.M. Barrie's description, as well as the fact that Wendy seems to play as large a role in this as she does in the book. Most other productions like to give Peter the full spotlight. Either way, it should be worth seeing what Hogan comes up with this Christmas. And if people enjoy this they might want to see *Neverland* next November which stars Johnny Depp and concerns the life of Pan author J.M. Barrie.

WWW.IMDB.COM

Maybe we've showcased one too many *Rings* pics this semester but thats what happens when a Tolkien geek serves as editor. (Above) Sam kicks spider thorax.

Cold Mountain

Release Date: *December 25*
Director: *Anthony Minghella*
Cast: *Jude Law, Nicole Kidman, Renee Zellweger, Natalie Portman.*

IMDB Summary: "In the waning days of the American Civil War, a wounded soldier embarks on a perilous journey back home to Cold Mountain, North Carolina to reunite with his sweetheart. Based on the novel by Charles Frazier."

I read this book a few years ago and am interested to see what Minghella does with it. The advanced word I have heard has not been overly positive, but that was months ago and the film could be completely different since it was first screened. I do not like the look of Renee Zellweger's character from the trailers - her dialogue delivery is very annoying which is unfortunate since I liked the interplay between her Ruby and Kidman's Ada. One thing I have heard time and again is that the battle in the beginning of the movie is incredible. You decide this Christmas!

- Compiled by Brian Sweeney

Last Weekend at the Movies

Weekend Gross/**Total Gross**

1. *Elf*
$26,325,613
$70,354,526
2. *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*
$25,105,990
$25,105,990
3. *The Matrix Revolutions*
$16,415,384
$114,268,949
4. *Brother Bear*
$12,056,067
$63,057,769
5. *Looney Tunes: Back in Action*
$9,317,371
$9,317,371
6. *Love Actually*
$8,698,030
$18,861,700
7. *Scary Movie 3*
$6,105,246
$102,339,254
8. *Radio*
$4,808,366
$43,516,338
9. *Tupac: Resurrection*
$4,632,847
$4,632,847
10. *Mystic River*
$3,244,465
$45,568,765

Samuel Kirkland Film Society Returns!

Alina Troya '04 discusses the most happening place to be on Friday and Saturday nights

It's sad but true: for most of the semester, Hamilton students were forced to either take a film class or go off the Hill in order to see a movie on the big screen. But fear no more, because something is playing in a KJ Aud near you!

WWW.IMDB.COM

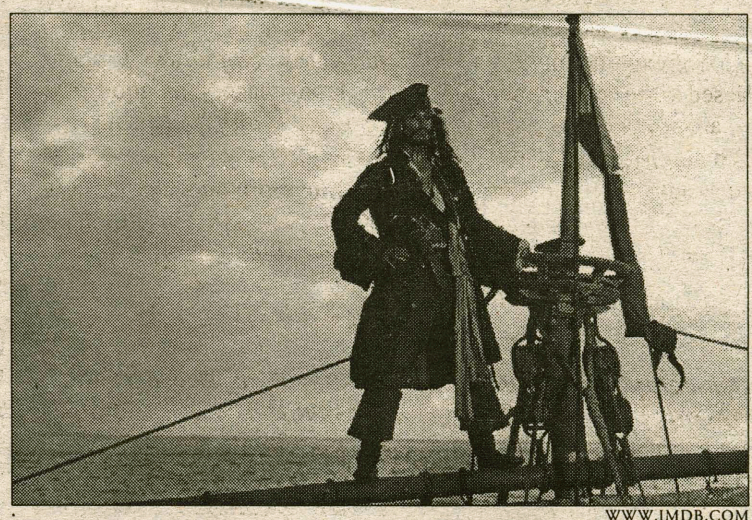
Agent Smith hugs Neo with glee as he learns that the Kirkland Film Society actually chose their movie to screen! See him and Neo fight this weekend in KJ.

The Samuel Kirkland Film Society (SKFS) was first established in the late 80s as a social option for students and as a club for those interested in movies and films. Over the past couple of years, however, the society, for one reason or another, turned into a couple people or just one individual that picked movies to be shown on weekends. Then, at the beginning of this year, there was no one running the organization. Attendance to the showings was low last semester, so there seemed to be no reason to spend money on films that no one was watching. Obviously there were some problems to work out, but two students took action and got involved in reforming the Society. Sharon Hakim '06 and Matt Javitch '04 went to Cameo Voltz at Student Activities and took on the responsibility of reestablishing the club.

Sharon says that she missed having the films as an option on weekends, and apparently other students did too. This was affirmed last weekend when the SKFS arranged a comeback and sponsored Disney's *Pirates of the Caribbean* in KJ Aud. Shown on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, the attendance numbers were about 120, 100, and 80 people respectively. For a weekend activity on campus not involving alcohol, these are probably some of the biggest numbers Hamilton has ever seen. Sharon commented, "I was very pleased with the turnout because we worked really hard to get this club off its feet. The huge turnout definitely justified our efforts, and it proved to myself and to the community that there is a need for this type of thing on campus."

Sharon and Matt have opened the group up to the campus and they began holding meetings about a month ago. There is now a re-written constitution and positions open on the E-Board. They hope to have more campus involvement in the organization. Hopefully, with a good selection of films, people will keep coming back.

Sharon says they hope to accomplish more then just showing a movie a week. Some ideas for next semester include old TV show marathons, theme nights, such as scary movies for a Friday the 13th, romance movies for Valentine's Day, a Fight Night, featuring *Rocky* and others, and even an evening of Cult Classics. They would also love to do a movie showing outside or have a pajama party. The SKFS is debating having popcorn and soda at the showings, and they hope to increase the numbers of films and showtimes.



WWW.IMDB.COM

The Kirkland Film Society chose the dangerous and daring adventures of Captain Jack Sparrow to kick-off this year's film series in the KJ Auditorium.

As of now, the SKFS plans to meet sometime in December to pick the films for next semester. All members of the Society will vote on their favorite options, and anyone is welcome to join. Suggestions will also be taken if you send an email to skfilms@hamilton.edu. The number of films are restricted only by funding from Student Assembly, but hopefully this should not be a problem since so many students are taking advantage of the revived social option. Make sure to check your emails if you want to go to a meeting or get more involved in the SKFS!

This weekend is the second and last movie the Society will be showing this semester. *The Matrix Reloaded* will be in KJ Aud, Friday at 10pm and Saturday at 7pm, so if you haven't seen *Revolutions* yet, you can brush up on the details of Zion and the war against the machines first. Nothing beats a free movie in your own backyard, so thank the newly revived SKFS for this. It all boils down to a comment Matt made: "We got the club started again because we love the movies - It's all about the movies baby!!!!"

Hamilton Artists: Writer Alyson Grant '04

Elana Zak '07 interviews more Hamilton students with passion for the arts

It has been a little while, but Hamilton Artist's is back to talk with more of the most creative students on campus. In this week's column, I spoke with Alyson Grant.

The Spec: What are you majoring in?

Alyson Grant: I'm a double major in Sociology and Creative Writing

The Spec: How did you become interested in writing? Was this something you have been interested in your whole life?

AG: Writing has always been a passion of mine.

The Spec: What is your favorite piece that you have written?

AG: Favorite piece, hmmm... I am really proud of one of my short stories which I wrote during my Sophomore year.

The Spec: Do you enjoy reading? Who is your favorite author?

AG: Of course I love to read creative writing pieces! My favorite author is Margaret Atwood. Whenever I am asked this question, she is my answer. I think she's brilliant.

The Spec: How does writing affect you? Do you feel like it is a healing process at all, or is it just something that you do because you enjoy it?

AG: Writing has always been a source of outlet and freedom for me.

The Spec: Do you feel like Hamilton has done a good job in letting you expand your interest in writing?

AG: The creative writing classes I have taken at Hamilton have helped me find my voice and apply it to writing. Classes are generally based on reading, in and out of class exercises, and peer workshops.

The Spec: Where is your favorite to place write?

AG: My favorite place to write is anywhere as long as I am in the creative writing zone and eager to work. Also, I have found that music is one of the most important factors in the creative process for me.

The Spec: Do you intend to keep writing after college?

AG: I feel confident that writing will always be a part of my life in some way. It has become a source of identity for me and I really enjoy simply jotting thoughts and phrases on paper whenever the inclination strikes me.

Do you have a favorite movie, television show, book, play, album, or artist?

We want anybody on campus who loves a work of art to just sit down and write about what it is about that work that resonates with them (review it - don't summarize!). It could be just a few paragraphs or over a 1000 words on the subject - it doesn't matter!

Write something and send it to either bsweeney, bgreensp or pkhanna. This is open to EVERYONE - students, professors, workers, the fine folks at Bon Appetit - anyone!

The author of the 13th 500+ word article that we recieve will win a free standard priced (no box sets) DVD of their choice! **Seriously.**

Women's hockey looks to continue its success

by Michael Osborne '05
SPORTS WRITER

Fresh off a record-breaking year, the Hamilton College women's ice hockey team hopes to build on last year and take its game to the next level. Last season, the team set records for most wins in a season (13), most goals scored (93) and longest winning streak (5). However, the team failed to make it to the NESCAC Final Four, as they lost their first-round playoff game, which they hosted, to Colby College.

The team has set as its number one goal this season to take the next step and not only qualify for the NESCAC Final Four, but also to be competitive and make a run at a league title.

Third year head coach, Shannon Bryant believes that this team has what it takes to achieve its goals. Team speed and the offensive mindset of this team will lead to great things.

In addition to the physical qualities of the team that will allow them to take the next step, team cohesion and leadership are not lacking. The Continentals have a great leader in team captain Eden Self '04. Self is a four year varsity member who knows what it takes to be successful. In addition to Self, the Continentals are led by assistant captains Alex Koerte '04 and Marissa Halligan '05. Koerte has been a four-year varsity member and Halligan is in her third year. Coach Bryant is also looking to Jess Moran '05 and Sarah Baldwin '04 to step up and take on leadership roles. All five of these girls have been through the wars and know what it takes to be successful.

PHOTO BY LIZ KENNEDY '05

Each player looks in on her teammates as coach Labarge runs a drill.

In addition to great leadership and team chemistry, Coach Bryant has a strong core of defensemen and a very talented forward corps. The Continentals have three strong lines, any of which could be considered the first line. Coach Bryant is looking for a lot from the line of Self, Moran and Zoe Baldwin '06, last year's NESCAC Rookie of the Year and a member of the First-Team All NESCAC. The Continentals need a lot of leadership and production from this line. Coach Brytan thinks that Self has the best vision on the team. Baldwin has an eye for the net and a knack for scoring. Coach Bryant believes that Moran will bring a lot to the line as she is "a scrapper who brings a digger type of attitude" to the line. Another line that will be a force to be reckoned with features Marissa Halligan and two first-years, Lindsay Bartz '07 and Emma Griffith '07. Halligan is another forward who has a nose for the net, and Bartz has great vision on the ice. The final line that Coach Bryant expects to produce consists of Jane Bradley '06, Tierney Boisvert '07 and Jessica Wagoner '06.

This line has been moving the puck extremely well in practice and has been picking up the systems.

While the lines have been set for the forwards, the coaching staff is still making decisions on the defensive pairings. Coach Bryant is looking for Kristina Carroll '07 to make an immediate impact. Coach Bryant believes that Carroll will be a force on the blue line. Alex Koerte and Sarah Baldwin will make an impact from the blue line. Both have experience and the skills to excel. Erica Colligan '06 is much improved from last year, and will be looked upon to step up her game and make an impact. In addition to Carroll, two first-year defensemen, Emma Dunn '07 and Julie Haney '07, are expected to contribute to the defensive effort.

Now that goalie Jen Kroleski '03 has graduated, the goaltender position is up in the air. Sophomore Stefanie Whalen '06 and first-year Caitlin Connelly '07 will battle for the starting role. Whalen received some experience last year when Kroleski was injured, and Connelly is looking to make an immediate impact.

The elements are in place for this team to make that next step. The combination of great leadership and an excited and passionate incoming class will allow this team to reach its goals. The team will be a very offensive-minded and exciting group to follow. The team has been working hard, and is excited to play some games. Hamilton's first action will be over Thanksgiving weekend at Amherst. Its first home games are on December 5th and 6th versus Trinity. They close out the first semester on December 9th at Utica.

Women's basketball has high expectations

The Continentals return their starting five and hope to build on last year's improvement

by Paul Kibbe '05
SPORTS WRITER

The women's basketball team has very high expectations going into their 2003-04 season. Last season they finished 14-11 overall, the most wins they have had in a while, including going 9-5 in the UCAA conference, good enough to get them a spot in the playoffs. The best part about this year's team is that all but two players from last year's team are returning, including all five starters. Coach Diehl is beginning her sixth season as head coach. Last season she had the most success she has had since she began coaching here, though the team did not have a consistent starting lineup, and many different players got the opprtunity to start. This will be a big advantage for this year's team because so many players are returning and many of them have had a good amount of game experience. There are also more players on this year's team, which is beneficial both in practice and in games.

When asked what changes were made this year in order to improve the team, Jen Munoz '04 said, "I think that now, because there is more depth, we can roll more people through at different positions which allows for more looks. We are in better shape because there are more players, and because of this we can play with more speed. Practices are more productive in the sense of being in shape; we've been doing more playing in game situations than in the past. Quick subs keeps everyone fresh so we're able to play harder."

Erin Daugherty '06 also added, "Practices have been much better this season. The team is playing much better as a whole, and we have been more productive because we have focused more on playing in full-court situations."

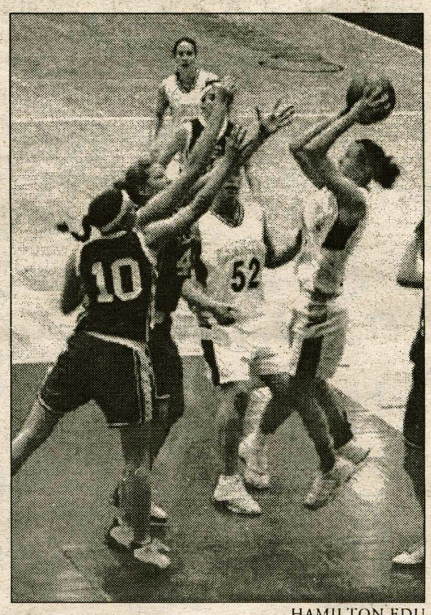
There are many key returning players from last year's team including the top six scorers from last year's team, Holly Erick (214 pts.), Missy Nelson (210), Tricia Czeski (169), Jen Munoz (167), Larissa Hopkins (165), and Jess Gorman (155). The team also returns its top five rebounders from last year's team led by Anna Jablonski (147), Holly Erick (129), Jen Munoz (128), Missy Nelson (106), and Tricia Czeski (82). Missy Nelson led last year's team with 46 steals, and Larissa Hopkins topped all players in assists with 72. With all these category leaders returning, the team should have similar success to last year's team, except now with an extra year of playing together under their belts.

Another key player that the Continentals get back this year is senior Liz Casey who was forced to sit out all of last season with a knee injury. She will really help the team as a leader both at point guard and in the locker room. The team also returns many sophomores who have improved a lot since their freshmen season last year. Alicia Giglio and Erin Daugherty will help the team at the guard position, and Jessica Pisegna and Kim Beavers will be key forwards on this year's team.

"Health has been an important factor beginning the season. The coaches have been doing a good job of pushing us hard on certain days and lightening up on others to keep us fresh. This, combined with the number of girls we have, has been able to result in very few injuries (knock on wood) so far. Larissa went down early in the season but has been rehabilitating her injury to be able to get back into practices, but other than that, all of the girls have been good about taking care of themselves so any small injury doesn't turn into a serious problem," said Anna Jablonski.

The team also added four new freshmen this year. Jill Regan is a six-footer and should help out Holly Erick at center. The three other freshmen, Liz Longley, Maria Garvin and Allie Massaro, are all guards, making the competition for a guard/forward spot even tougher.

"Each freshman that joined the team this year brings something different to the table," said Anna Jablonski, "Jill Regan adds height and strength inside and will cause problems for other team's posts because she has a solid 15-foot jump shot and can play with her face to the basket. Allie Massaro, also a member of the volleyball team, is an athletic and intense 2-3 guard who is versatile enough to play both the point guard and forward positions. Maria Garvin is a tough defensive player who rebounds the ball extremely well for a shooting guard. And Liz Longley is a 3-4 who can play with both her back to the basket and as a slashing guard from the outside. Each of them are capable of making huge contributions this year and are responsible for adding an astonishing amount of depth to our team."



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Women's hoops is ready for some live game action.

The team should have a lot of chemistry by returning so many players from last year's team, causing them to set high expectations for this season. They play in a UCAA conference that is very strong, including Union and St. Lawrence.

When asked about this year's team Jen Munoz commented, "We have a very deep team this year. New players mean a new look, and since we only lost two seniors we are a veteran team with a lot of upperclassmen who know how to play well with each other. Beating Union and St. Lawrence, finishing top in the UCAA, and making the NCAA tournament are our main priorities."

Last year the Continentals played four close games with Union and St. Lawrence and came up empty handed all four times. This year's team plans to come away with some wins. The Continentals open their season at home in December 2nd against local foe Utica College.

Beat the Experts

Beat the "Experts" is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college athletics. Each week, we will pick several games in which to choose winners, and we will have a special guest pick winners as well. If any game its in a tie, it is not counted. Last week, the experts combined for a 23-17 record.

	Michael Proia *Spectator* *Sports Editor*	Andrew DeCastro *Spectator* *Sports Editor*	Ian Mandel *Spectator* *News Editor*	Allison Davis *Spectator* *I&I Editor*	Ben Turner *Junior* *Guest #2*
Last Week's Record:	**6-4**	**7-3**	**2-8**	**8-2**	**5-5**
NFL					
San Francisco @ Green Bay 11/23	Packers	Packers	Packers	Packers	Packers
Carolina @ Dallas 11/23	Cowboys	Panthers	Panthers	Dallas	Panthers
Seattle @ Baltimore 11/23	Seahawks	Ravens	Seahawks	Seahawks	Seahawks
New Orleans @ Philadelphia11/23	Eagles	Eagles	Eagles	Eagles	Saints
New Tork Giants @ Tampa Bay 11/24	Bucs	Bucs	Bucs	Bucs	Bucs
NBA					
Boston @ Philadelphia 11/21	76er's	Celtics	Celtics	Celtics	Celtics
Houston @ Portland 11/21	Blazers	Blazers	Rockets	Blazes	Rockets
New Orleans @ Detroit 11/23	Pistons	Hornets	Pistons	Pistons	Pistons
College Football					
Ohio State @ Michigan 11/22	Wolverines	Buckeyes	Wolverines	Wolverines	Wolverines
LSU @ Mississippi 11/22	Tigers	Ole Miss	Tigers	Tigers	Ole Miss

If you think that you can beat these "experts," drop us a line and we will try to get you into the section. Write "I can beat the experts" on a sheet of paper with your name, then fold it and address it to the sports editors at *The Spectator*. Drop it in campus mail and if you're selected randomly, you'll quickly receive a form for you to make your picks.

Cross country finishes up

by Katherine Nelson '06
SPORTS WRITER

On November 8, the Women's Cross Country team raced at the state meet held at Saratoga State Park. Ithaca College finished first, with a team score of 56, followed by Geneseo with 59 points, and St. Lawrence with 77 points.

Hamilton finished 8th out of 15 competing teams with 227 points.

"This was a great race for everybody," said Keira Moore '06. "Every person on the team achieved a season best, and five of us had personal records."

Margo Rockwell '05 finished 23rd out of 135 runners in 18:59; Katie Riposta '06 finished 35th with a time of 19:27; Emily Dick '06 came in 63rd with a time of 20:03; Allison McNamara '07 crossed the line in 68th place in 20:10; Moore finished 69th in 20:11; Ruth Leoniuk '05 came in 94th with a time of 21:02; Heather King '06 finished 97th in 21:09; Jeesoo Park '07 finished in 111th place in 21:54; and Becca Levinn '07 finished 123rd with a time of 23:09.

"The Saratoga course is a team favorite, which is one of the reasons everyone had such a good race, and there were also a lot of spectators cheering us on," said Leoniuk.

Last Saturday, the team finished its season with the NCAA Atlantic Regionals held at the Letchworth State Park. The College of New Jersey earned first place with 46 points, with Ithaca College and Geneseo finishing second and third with 98 and 100 points respectively.

Out of the 30 teams competing, Hamilton came in 16th with a team score of 471.

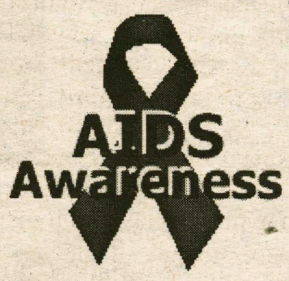
Rockwell finished in 32nd place out of 206 runners with a time of 24:25; Riposta finished 77th with 25:34; and Dick came in 109th with 25:57. Moore crossed the line in 129th with a time of 26:23; McNamara in 149th place with 27:08; Park in 159th with 27:56; and Leoniuk in 164th with 28:06.

Rockwell made the All-Regional Team by finishing within the top 35 runners from all of New Jersey and New York State. "Regionals was a fun race to end the season with," said Leoniuk. "The course was really muddy, so by the time we crossed the finish line everyone was just covered in it."

It is evident that the team has progressed throughout the season, especially in the fact that everyone got season bests at the State meet. "The team has really made a lot of improvement this season," said Moore. "We're going to keep running during the off-season to be prepared for next year, and continue to improve and push ourselves to do our bests."

Write for *The Spec*:
Email jkuhl

Community Vigil/ Open Discussion for World AIDS Day



Saturday December 5th, 4:30 Cafe Opus

Men's hoops is ready to tip off the season

by Michael Proia '05
SPORTS EDITOR

The men's basketball team will bringthe long layover since last season to an end Monday night at home against SUNY IT; Hamilton hopes this season can be as successful as last season. The team ended last season with a 23-6 record, a regular season conference title in addition to a UCAA Playoff title, and a Sweet Sixteen appearance. This year's team has a lot to live up to, but the returning players and talented freshmen have the ability and experience to create another great year.

Head coach Tom Murphy enters his 34th year at Hamilton in his current position. Last season was his 15th 20-plus win season at the helm. Last year's 23 wins tied for second most in school history.

Six lettermen return to the Continentals from last season including seniors Joe Smith and Greg Leone. CJ Cantil '04, Steve Nelson '04 and Geoff Tomlinson '04 will also be playing the final seasons of their careers. Mike Evans '05, Tim Welchons '06, Andrew Terry '06 and Ben Jurkiewicz '06 round out the returning varsity players. Brandon Holtslag '06 will join them, in addition to freshmen Tsakane Ngobeni ("TK") and John Fleming. The team seems to be coming together quickly and forming a good bond.

"I think team chemistry is the most important thing in any team sport," said coach Murphy, "and I think our team chemistry is real good. Our kids like each other, and because of that we can win some games that we probably shouldn't."

Hamilton has been ranked in the pre-season top 25 of two national polls. D-III Basketball News ranked Hamilton number 13, and D3Hoops.com had them at 24. Despite the recognition the team is receiving, the players know that once the season starts the rankings don't win any games; the team will have to do that on its own.

The Continentals have focused their goals on playing hard every day in practice and taking each game as it comes. Coach Murphy believes that the younger players have been taking their cue from the hard-working veterans.

We have five seniors and they all work hard everyday in practice," said Murphy. "The young guys see that, and they bust their butts in practice every day. We only have two freshmen and they are both very competitive and they follow the lead of the upper classmen."

For now, Leone will start at the point and Welchons will start at the two-guard spot. Last year Leone averaged 13.6 points and 5.4 assists per game as the starting point guard. Welchons missed most of last season due to an ankle injury, and will retain freshman status this season thanks to an injury red-shirt exemption granted by the NCAA.

The starting frontcourt will be Smith, Cantil, and TK. Smith, a UCAA second team selection last year, comes back following a season in which he averaged 14.9 points and 10.1 rebounds per game. Cantil started eleven games last year, averaging 4.3 points and 4.1 rebounds per game. TK will start at center, replacing NABC D-III First Team All-American Joe Finley '03. While the talented freshman does not have the wide body that Finley had, his athleticism and soft hands make him a potentially lethal scoring threat. TK can also step away from the hoop for outside shots.

The Continentals will have to increase their depth as the season progresses, but they do have three returning lettermen coming off the bench. Tomlinson and Evans will be backcourt subs and Nelson will be the first forward off the bench. Tomlinson will be Leone's backup at the point, and Evans will mostly play the two. Evans' long-range shooting ability makes him an instant offensive threat off the bench. Nelson will play some small-forward and power-forward, providing a physical presence off the bench.

Despite losing Kevin Yanni '03, who made a school record-setting 86 three-pointers last season, Hamilton should have plenty of outside scoring threats with Welchons, Leone and Evans.

The team is a little concerned about front court depth, but the team's ability to play zone defense can help the big men avoid foul trouble. However, as in years past, the team will run a man-to-man based system. Rebounding could be a problem for the undersized Continentals on both ends of the floor, but if the team can overcome that, this team is going to be very successful.

Offensively, the Continentals will show a different look to teams than they did last year. Last year Hamilton tried to look inside to Joe Finley and have the offense run from there, but as coach Murphy points out, this team has different strengths.

"We have to play to our strengths," commented Murphy. "Our big men can play inside but they can step away and draw the other team's forwards away from the basket so we will take advantage of that."

This year's team will try to outrun other teams down the floor, and prevent them from setting up on defense. With a starting lineup including two guards who can play both point and shooting guard, Hamilton can present tough matchups for any team it plays. Both Leone and Welchons can handle the ball and shoot well from the perimeter, and the depth of guards on the bench will help this team stay fresh and play fast at the same time.

Hamilton played its annual Blue-White scrimmage on Monday, showcasing all the varsity as well as junior varsity players. Greg Leone did not play due to an injury, but he expects to be in the line up for Hamilton's first game. In the scrimmage, TK led all scorers with 27 points and tied Smith for a game high twelve rebounds. Smith also added nineteen points. Evans scored 24, seventeen coming in the second half, and Welchons added 21 points and seven assists. Cantil may have played the most complete game, just missing a triple-double with sixteen points, nine rebounds, and nine assists.

The first game of the season will be Monday at 7 in the Field House against SUNY IT.

Men's hockey has the right ingredients to win

by Andrew DeCastro '05
SPORTS EDITOR

The men's hockey team opens the season this upcoming weekend with two home games. As with every year, expectations are high for the program. Despite the loss of key forwards and defensemen from a year ago, Hamilton has retained a solid nucleus. Gus Katsuras '06, Hamilton's leading scorer a year ago, now brings much needed experience to complement his scoring ability. Captain Jeff Corey '04 was fourth on the team in scoring a year ago, and needs to contribute even more this year for the Conts to be successful. Corey had some comments about the expectations for the team this year:

"The team is very optimistic about the upcoming season. We've got all of the key things a potential championship team needs. A natural goal scorer in Gus, a veteran set of defenseman and three amazing goalies in Gabe, MacNeil, and Jonesy. Our goal is of course to win the NESCAC, a feat no Hamilton team has done before."

Head Coach Phil Grady added to Corey's thoughts:

"Everybody, coaches and players alike, have high hopes for the upcoming season. We have depth, great physical strength and most importantly, team chemistry. We have all the pieces, but now it's a question of whether we put them together."

Katsuras added his offensive philosophy:

"The key that needs to be fulfilled in order for offense to click this year is having all forwards playing within their roles and nothing less. Every player has to stay positive and we need all four lines to be consistent during the season for us to succeed."

Hamilton will bring seven new faces to the ice at the newly designed "Orange Bowl."

These new faces will be expected to make an immediate impact. Two key players from last year, Craig Kennedy '05 and Greg Cerra '06, have injuries that will keep them out of the lineup. Despite the injuries to these two returnees, head coach Phil Grady is confident that the younger faces can contribute to the team's success.

"We are very pleased with the freshmen right now and they know they have to step up and they need to pull their weight right away. We're going to skate four lines, which means that everyone in the lineup will have an opportunity to contribute."

Defensively, Hamilton has the luxury of dressing eight skilled players. Leading the defensive core will be co-captain Andy Laskowski '04. The Conts also have leadership from seniors Dave Racine '04 and Scott Gordon '04. Not only does Hamilton return five defensemen from a year ago, but freshmen John Gordon '07 and Pat McGarry '07 will make an immediate impact at the blue line. The returnees, combined with the talented freshmen, make Hamilton's defensive core one of the best in the NESCAC.

PHOTO BY LIZ KENNEDY '05

The team gathers in after working hard at practice.

Brendan Bell '06 discussed the keys to success for the defense:

"We need to be fundamentally sound in our zone and stick to the systems implemented by the coaching staff. If everyone sticks to their assignment, our defensemen are talented enough to move the puck quickly in transition."

The success of the team usually depends on the quality of the goaltending. Thankfully, Hamilton has three quality goaltenders returning, led by Gabe Tash '06, who was named the NESCAC Rookie of the Year a year ago. Tash, Friday's starter against Babson, had some thoughts about the goaltending core:

"I think our goaltending can improve from last year by us becoming better on-ice leaders for the team and playing more consistently. If all three of us do our jobs to the best of our ability, we can be one of the top teams in the league. It's a question of us putting up the numbers and backing it up. I can look back to our losing streak last year, one of us needed to step up, grab the bull by the horns and get a win. We cannot let that happen this year, at the first sign of our team struggling, they need to look to us as the backbone of the team."

On Friday, Hamilton hosts the Beavers of Babson College. Babson, predicted to be the second best team in their league behind Norwich, will be a tough home opener for the Conts. A year ago, Hamilton enjoyed a 4-2 lead until the Beavers came back and tied the game, stealing a point from the Continentals. Realizing this, it's imperative that the Conts use their strengths to get a quick lead. After this, it's up to the seniors on the team to make sure the younger guys are not complacent and that they maintain the lead. If Hamilton is fundamentally sound in all three zones, create scoring chances on the power play and have an effective penalty killing unit, they will be successful.

Jeff Corey had some final thoughts:

"The key to success against Babson is to come out of the gate firing. We need to come at them physically right from the drop of the puck, knock them on their heels and never let them regain their balance. We feel we are a more skilled team than they are, so the outcome of the game will depend upon which team is hungrier."